

REDESIGNING

the Educational Experience



2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Danielle Queen
CNC Programming and Operations Student



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Redesigning the Educational Experience Helps Students Reach Goals.....	4
Crescent High School Seniors Receive College Certificates	6
Tamassee High Grad Turns Calculations into Creations.....	8
From LPN to Professor.....	9
Nurse Says Transfer Classes Prepared Him for Second Bachelor’s Degree at Clemson University	10
New Teaching Model Creates Smoother, Shorter Academic Journey	11
Moore Reflects on Journey from High School Dropout to Honor Grad.....	12
Koyo Student Co-op Trains for Lifelong Career	14
Learning Beyond Campus Impacts Kyle’s Life, Career Choice.....	16
Colleagues Connect through Learning College 101 Class	17
Twenty20 Mentoring Program Plays Role in Student’s Success.....	18
Patriots’ Place Offers Resources and Counseling Services for Veterans	20
SCMC Credential Complements Lauren McGarry’s IET Degree	22
Anderson Rotary Club Scholarship Supports Student Veteran.....	24
Foundation Honors Itron as Philanthropist of the Year	25
Doug Wilson Honored with 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award.....	26
Foundation Highlights	27
Community Collaborations	29
Student Success	32
Education Experts	34
Academic Accolades	36
Figures, Charts, and Graphs	38
TCTC Foundation, Inc.....	42
College Administration.....	49



On the Cover

Meet Danielle Queen, a 2014 graduate of Tamassee-Salem High School who completed the Machine Tool Technology Program at the Hamilton Career Center while in high school. She is now enrolled at Tri-County Technical College majoring in CNC Programming and Operations. See page 8 for her story.

Friends and Partners

Redesigning the Educational Experience, the theme of this annual report, reflects our year-long intentional focus on adapting our programs to meet the ever-changing realities of society and the workplace. Ensuring the relevancy of our offerings is not something new, but this year we took several leaps forward in changing the way we conduct the business of education.

In the pages of this report, you will learn about our new technical career pathways, which enable students to earn a college credential even before graduating from high school. Our pilot class of Crescent High School students joined other TCTC grads in crossing the stage to be awarded a Basic Electronics Certificate weeks before earning their high school diploma. All who graduated chose to continue their education at Tri-County in Industrial Electronics or Mechatronics.

We developed a new stackable credentials model in several industrial skills programs, which allows us to offer an associate degree in smaller, more manageable components where it makes sense to do so. Now students complete a specialized certificate that can be “stacked” with other credentials so that if a student has to leave school for some reason before completing an associate degree, he or she will have a marketable credential that an employer will recognize and respect. Later, the student can continue earning credits and credentials leading to the associate degree.

Redesigning the educational experience also takes us beyond what happens in the classroom and enables us to reach out to students in new and different ways. Grounded in our values and supported by our service standards, we seek to create the type of environment that supports a transformative experience in our students. By delivering this experience, students perceive themselves differently, leading to a fundamental change that empowers them to become effective learners in college and beyond. This gives our graduates what we now call the “TCTCedge.”

Our stories are best told by our students. In the pages of this report, you will meet Danielle Queen, a recent graduate of Tamassee-Salem High School who set aside stereotypes and completed the Machine Tool Technology program at the Hamilton Career Center. She is now a freshman at Tri-County Technical College majoring in CNC Programming and Operations and well on her way to a successful career.

Soffion Robinson, who spent most of her life hiding the fact that she never finished high school, found the courage to complete her GED and enroll at Tri-County despite numerous obstacles. She says the support she has received from her instructors and the Twenty20 mentoring program have instilled in her a fierce determination to succeed.

At age 20, Wesley O’Kelley is training for a career in a field he loves by working in a paid co-operative education position at Koyo Bearings while maintaining an A average and Dean’s List status. He is not alone. Nearly every single person in the machine shop at the Walhalla plant has graduated from the Machine Tool Technology program at Tri-County, and of the 600 employed at the plant, at least half have a degree or have taken classes through the Corporate and Community Education Division.

Our success speaks for itself. We have the highest student success rate among all sixteen technical and community colleges in the State. We are ranked in the 95th percentile nationally for successful transfer to four-year colleges and universities. A recent economic impact study shows that for every dollar taxpayers invest in the College, they see a \$3 return over the students’ working career. Surveys show our local employers are highly satisfied with the preparation our graduates receive.

The 2014-15 academic year is well underway and full of promise. We are poised to expand our presence in Oconee County. New technical career pathways programs already are underway in all seven school districts. We are in the process of expanding our curriculum to include high impact practices like service learning and internships for every student enrolled at the College. Our nationally recognized Bridge to Clemson program continues to flourish after nearly a decade.

Our annual report is as much about your success as it is about ours. We could never accomplish so much without your involvement and partnership. We are privileged and honored to serve our community and thank you for your continued support.



President Ronnie L. Booth, Foundation Board Chair Peggy G. Deane, and Commission Chair Leon (Butch) Harris

Ron Booth *Peggy G. Deane* *Leon Harris*

Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D.
President

Mrs. Peggy G. Deane, Chair
Tri-County Technical College
Foundation

Mr. Leon (Butch) Harris, Chair
Tri-County Technical College
Commission



President Booth congratulates a graduate as she crosses the stage to receive her degree.

Redesigning the Educational Experience Helps Students Reach Goals

Tri-County President Ronnie L. Booth says the College has been on an intentional journey this year, designing and implementing programs and pathways to help students to be successful in reaching their academic and personal goals. “Our job is about helping students get from where they are now to where they need to be,” said Dr. Booth.

Students of all demographics come to Tri-County Technical College at different stages of their lives. Some are traditional, others very non-traditional. Among the student population are working moms, displaced workers, frustrated workers, those embarking on second careers, and recent high school graduates, as well as high school dropouts. But they share a common purpose. Most have personal and professional success as their goal; however, they are taking different and diverse routes to arrive at the same destination.

“Historically, the College has been about access, and that is good, but we must help students to be successful, also. It’s important for educators and business partners to find new ways to communicate with today’s students, as well as their parents. It’s our responsibility to help them to identify options, how they fit, and how they get there,” said Dr. Booth.

“We have to be aggressive in our outreach efforts, offering pathways and opportunities that help these students reach their goals in life and in their careers. Most important, we have to continue to change. We can’t be static.”

With this in mind, Tri-County offers a variety of seamless career pathways that integrate academic and skills training to build tomorrow’s workforce.

This year the College embarked on a technical career pathways program that began with Crescent High School students and has expanded to several school districts in our service area. These technical career pathways begin in high school and culminate with an associate degree from Tri-County. “The program, at present, is designed for high school students to seamlessly transfer into Industrial Electronics or Mechatronics programs. After receiving a Tri-County certificate and a WorkKeys® credential, usually before they graduate from high school, they can go directly into the workforce or are well positioned to enroll at the College at a later date,” he said.

“That’s the beauty of the technical career pathways—greater access, increased options, and unique opportunities that otherwise would not exist. These pathways are yet another way we are redesigning the educational experience,” he said.

“Students expect more clarity and relevance. They want to be engaged in intellectual and tactile learning. They want to see the relevance and the connection,” he said.

It’s important to build the framework for continual learning, said Dr. Booth. “Today it’s either learn or be irrelevant. Both high school and college students have an expectation. So do our employers. They expect our graduates to come out ready to compete and survive in today’s workplace.”

Another example is through work-based learning, where students participate in paid apprenticeships, co-ops, and internships while

attending school. “It’s good for the company because they get skilled workers whom they can grow and train. It’s structured learning where one can try out the job and apply his or her knowledge. It truly changes learning. We feel it is critical for every student to have that kind of experience to determine their correct career path,” he said.

For Tri-County students, it’s all about connections, whether in the classroom or over coffee, said Dr. Booth. “We each have a critical role, and all are different and can make a significant impact on student success.”

One of those roles is to serve as mentors, he said. “We are focusing just as heavily on fostering the personal relationships that can be life changing for both students and the faculty and staff. We’ve all known persons in our lives who have mentored us, made us better people, and our life has been better as a result of knowing them. They taught us what couldn’t be learned in classrooms. It’s a huge part of education. We need these people to confirm and affirm our abilities and talents. The College’s new Twenty20 mentoring program and the opening of a

veterans center, Patriots’ Place, are critical pieces of the students success initiative. We are investing in students’ lives and therefore changing them for the better. You can’t put a price tag on transforming lives,” he said.

“Every day I see examples of lives that are changed through our people and our programs. I see it at graduation, when I shake the hand of a 21-year-old BMW scholar, who will be able to retire by the time he or she is my age or can choose to embark on another career. That’s so cool. There are options for everyone—the technical scholars who go to work, the Early Childhood Development graduate who transfers to Southern Wesleyan University and goes on to teach, or a four-year degree graduate who returns to Tri-County to take prerequisite science courses to enter Clemson’s accelerated BSN program. I see adults coming back to school for second or even first careers. Other initiatives include dual enrollment, co-ops, internships, Bridge to Clemson, and Connect to College. “We are finding these niche opportunities to make a significant difference in our community,” he said.

“It’s so inspiring to witness a proud moment in life when I shake the hand of a 40-year-old mom at graduation who received a Nursing degree and can say to her, ‘Congratulations, nurse.’”



The Bridge to Clemson program, in its ninth year, held orientations over the summer for the 750 students who enrolled this fall. This is the Bridge program’s largest class to date.

Bridge to Clemson, a first of its kind in South Carolina, is an invitation-only program that blends the traditional academic experience at Tri-County with the social and cultural experiences of being a Clemson University student. The program offers select Tri-County students a university experience and seamless transition to Clemson for the sophomore year.



Four Tri-County graduates completed the BMW Scholars Program this past spring and were recognized in a ceremony at the company’s Greer plant. The BMW Scholars Program offers the workplace benefits of a traditional apprentice program found in Germany with the additional advantage of tuition and book assistance.

Cheryl Garrison, job placement coordinator at Tri-County, left, and President Booth, right, pose with the four graduates, all of whom were offered full-time employment at BMW.



Dr. Booth visited Patriots’ Place, the College’s new veterans center, in early fall to welcome veterans and to assist in distributing supplies for the Backpacks for the Brave project. Here, Dr. Booth gets to know Corey Brodsky.



CAREER PATHWAYS

High School Administration Pose with First Technical Career Pathway Participants

Crescent High School Seniors Receive College Certificates

Justin Parnell and five other Crescent seniors joined Tri-County graduates in the spring commencement lineup to receive a college credential—before they graduated from Crescent High School.

They were ready for the workforce with a certificate in Basic Electronics or they could continue their education at Tri-County, which most chose to do. “I’m excited about the credentials I earned. I had a high school diploma, WorkKeys® certification, and an Electronics certificate from Tri-County,” said Justin.

He’s talking about a new career pathway program designed for Crescent High School students to achieve a Tri-County credential by the time they graduate from high school. Students receive Technical Advanced Placement credit for electricity classes taken in high school; then dually enroll at the Anderson Campus for four Engineering and Industrial Technology classes during their senior year. The program culminates with students receiving a Basic Electronics Certificate by the time they graduate from high school. They also accrue 20-plus hours of college credit towards an associate degree in either Mechatronics or Industrial Electronics.

This innovative career pathways model is the first of several being developed with school districts in the College’s service area. These career pathways will provide the employer-defined skills needed in advanced manufacturing, business, and other disciplines.

Because of credits earned, Crescent seniors entered Tri-County as second-semester freshmen. For two semesters, they traveled to the Anderson Campus four mornings a week and spent three hours in classes, earning a total of 20 college semester hours.

Cheyenne Davis says the best part of the experience was “the freedom to learn and to express ourselves. Each class concentrates specifically on what we are interested in,” said Cheyenne, whose career goal is to become an electrical engineer.

Blake McDonald appreciated the one-on-one time with the instructors. “With a small student-teacher ratio, it’s a lot easier. I knew I was on the right career path, but this class solidified that I made the right decision,” he said.

Ian McCraw was amazed that he graduated with a college credential before he graduated from high school. “I’ll be a better college student because of this exposure to college classes and instructors,” he said.

Justin says this past year opened his eyes to career opportunities in advanced manufacturing, including internships with major companies that lead to high paying jobs.

“This has been a good deal,” said Ian. “We can earn a maximum of 20 college hours and a credential during our senior year. It’s great to get started early with college,” he added.

“When I was younger, I had my heart set on Clemson University,” said Justin. “But with lottery tuition assistance and the LIFE scholarship paying for classes, you can’t beat going to Tri-County.” He is attending Tri-County this fall free of charge. He also plans to apply for a technical scholars position.

“I call them the dream team,” said adjunct instructor David Stedman, “because as the first class, they have come out and shown how successful they can be. They are eager and came in ready to learn every day. I admire their maturity as a group. They were a model class.”

TECHNICAL CAREER PATHWAYS PROGRAMS UNDERWAY WITH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICTS

DISTRICT	LOCATION	PATHWAYS PLANNED FOR FALL 2014 OR 2015
Anderson 1 Anderson 2	Anderson I & II Career & Technology Center	Mechatronics (2014)
Anderson 3	TCTC Anderson Campus	Basic Electronics Certificate (2014)
Anderson 4	TCTC Pendleton Campus	Automotive Technology (2014) Mechatronics (2015)
Anderson 5	TCTC Anderson Campus	Basic Electronics Certificate (2014)
School District of Oconee County	TCTC Campuses	HVAC (Industrial Technology Center) (2014) Mechatronics (2015)
School District of Pickens County	TCTC Campuses	Mechatronics (2015)

STATE PROVISO SUPPORTS PATHWAYS

A \$1 million state-funded proviso is making it possible for high school students to take college courses in career pathways with little or no out-of-pocket cost this fall.

For high school students in the tri-county area, the funding will cover tuition costs not covered by Lottery Tuition Assistance (LTA), books, and a portion of transportation costs for students enrolled in a technical career pathway. In the past, each school district was working to help offset the costs for these students through grants and their district budgets.

Tri-County’s four career pathways are Mechatronics, Basic Electronics, Automotive Technology, and Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Technology. They are being offered in the 2014 – 2015 academic year.

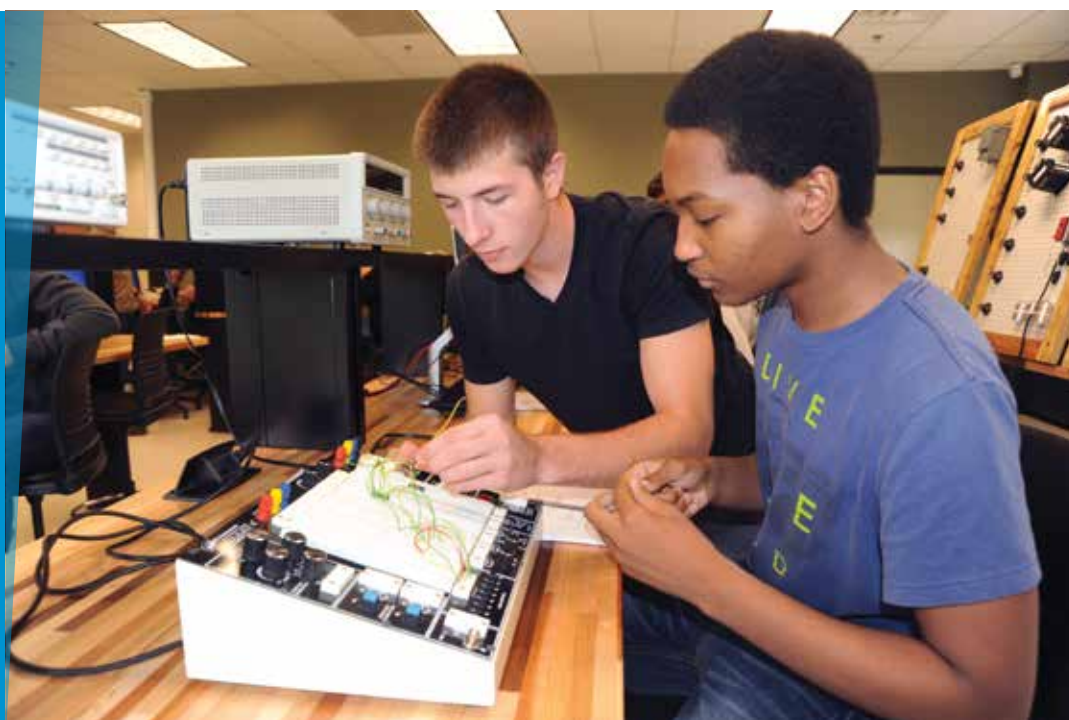
Specifically, technical career pathway programs with school districts provide students with the employer-defined skills needed in advanced manufacturing and other STEM-related careers, said Amanda Blanton, director of high school engagement and outreach at Tri-County.

In addition, the State proviso will fund enhanced basic education and skills training leading to STEM-related careers for developmental education (underprepared) Tri-County students and youth between the ages of 17 and 21 in the Connect to College program, said Diana Walter, director of Tri-County’s Connect to College (C2C) program and coordinator of the project.

ANDERSON DISTRICTS THREE AND FIVE ENROLL IN DIGITAL ELECTRONICS CLASS

Technical career pathways have been created for each school district in Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties, most of which are available Fall Semester 2014.

Students from Anderson School Districts Three and Five are enrolled in Industrial Electronics and Mechatronics pathways at Tri-County’s Anderson Campus. Pictured here in a Digital Electronics class that combines students from Crescent, T.L. Hanna, and Westside high schools are Kenneth Buchanan and Dylan Shedd.





Danielle Queen

CAREER PATHWAYS

Tamassee High Grad Turns Calculations into Creations

Danielle Queen thinks it's cool to see her mathematical calculations turn into creations.

As one of two females in her Machine Tool classes at the Hamilton Career Center last year, she and her classmates studied specifications and drawings, calculated dimensions and tolerances, and measured, set up, and manufactured projects. "There's nothing better than turning raw stock metal into something useful every day," added Danielle.

"I surprised myself because it came very easily to me," said Danielle, who maintained a straight A average for the past two and one half years.

The 2014 Tamassee-Salem High School graduate started off in biomedical classes at the Hamilton Career Center, but an F and disinterest in the subject led her to a conversation with her guidance counselor.

"After receiving an F in the Principles of Biomedical Science class the first semester of my sophomore year, I went to my guidance counselor, Mrs. (Cindy) Burnett, and said 'Help!' We talked about my interests and my ambitions. I like building things and we discussed carpentry, but the class was full. In my Project Lead the Way class, we built a Rube Gold-

berg project (she was the only female in that group). I excelled in hands-on projects, and I liked math, so I chose the Machine Tool Technology curriculum. We use algebra and trig, and I like it. I thrived in the classes. There was no learning curve. I was hooked," she said.

She decided her senior year she would enroll at Tri-County and major in CNC Programming and Operations. "If not for my guidance counselor, who knows what I'd be failing at," she joked. "So far, I'm ahead of the game." She earned 15 hours of Technical Advanced Placement credit that transferred to Tri-County, allowing her to enter as a second-semester freshman in fall 2014. She says Hamilton Career Center instructor Charles Godwin prepared her and her classmates for college classes through his technical expertise and by bringing his real-world advice and knowledge to the classroom. "He told us what to expect in the workplace and that safety is always first. He truly prepared me for college and helped me beyond words."

She's determined to finish the degree in a year and half. "I will be the first person on my father's side to graduate from college. That will make him and me proud. My goal is to be number one in my class."

From LPN to Professor

Lindsey Montjoy is a self-described planner and a goal setter, and it has paid off.

At age 31, she has earned four college degrees—two from Tri-County and two from Clemson University. She has advanced from an LPN to a lecturer in the School of Nursing at Clemson University in just a decade.

“It’s important to set goals. They keep me motivated,” said Lindsey, who after earning Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) and Associate Degree Nursing degrees from Tri-County, went on to receive bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Nursing from Clemson, while working full-time as a registered nurse.

“It’s a manageable goal,” she tells others interested in going the LPN to Professor route. “You can work and pursue a degree.” She learned about this career pathway while an LPN student at Tri-County. After earning her degree in 2003, she entered into the Associate Degree Nursing program and became an RN in 2006. She worked in the AnMed Behavioral Health Unit until 2012.

Lindsey had thoughts of continuing her education while nearing completion of her ADN degree but figured it was impossible in terms of finances and time. She had accepted the job at AnMed Health and didn’t know where more college could fit in. But after hearing about the LPN to Professor initiative, a partnership with Tri-County, the hospitals in the service area, and Clemson University, she changed her mind. “She made it sound easy. I could earn my BSN in three semesters by attending classes one day a week at the University Center in Greenville. It’s convenient and manageable, even while working a full-time job. You aren’t burned out at the end, and AnMed Health has a tuition assistance program,” said Lindsey.

In the past, there were barriers to pursuing additional education, such as time constraints, finances, and a need for personalized advising in coursework. “Through the LPN to Professor initiative and the support of our area hospitals, students now have a vision and know they can succeed and gain advanced degrees,” says Dr. Lynn Lewis, dean of the Health Education Division, who credits the program with allowing nurses to move seamlessly through each scope of the practice level (LPN, ADN, BSN, master’s) while staying in the workforce. “It truly maximizes a person’s ability to envision and achieve success in nursing education while remaining in their communities,” she added.

“It helps to have encouraging counselors and instructors like I had at both Tri-County and Clemson,” she added. “I try to be that for my students now,” said Lindsey, who has been working as a full-time lecturer in Clemson’s School of Nursing (mental health nursing) for more than a year.

She always thought about teaching, even as a student at Westside High School. Along with education, she also was interested in nursing, so as an undecided freshman she entered Tri-County and found the LPN program and loved it. “The LPN program gave me a good foundation and helped me to be successful,” she said.

Lindsey earned her master’s in Nursing (specializing in Family Nurse Practitioner) from Clemson in 2012 and then began working as a nurse at the CVS Minute Clinic in Clemson.



Lindsey Montjoy

She was a graduate teaching assistant while pursuing her master’s. “I loved that job,” she said. “I love this job. I am so happy. This will be my lifelong career.”

She continues to work as an R.N. on weekends on a part-time basis with CVS.

“I’ve got the best of both worlds,” said Lindsey, whose next goal is to earn a Ph.D.

LPN TO PROFESSOR INITIATIVE

In 2005, a \$1.2 million grant from the Duke Endowment enabled four area hospitals (AnMed Health, Cannon Memorial Hospital, Oconee Memorial Hospital, and Baptist Easley Hospital) to join forces with Clemson University and Tri-County to address the future shortage of nurses in the workplace and nursing faculty within Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties.

“Today, the model is working, and the efforts of the grant have been sustainable,” said Dr. Lynn Lewis, dean of the Health Education Division.



CAREER PATHWAYS

Rich Snead

Nurse Says Transfer Classes Prepared Him for Second Bachelor's Degree at Clemson University

Rich Snead will be the first to admit that he had fears and uncertainty associated with leaving his longtime and lucrative position as an insurance executive in Manhattan and moving to South Carolina to contemplate a return to college and a third career change.

He was an Army infantry officer for five years following graduation from Kent State University in the 1980's, an insurance executive for twenty years, and now he's embarking on a career as an oncology nurse. "At 35, I never thought about my career path. At age 45, I began to question what to do with the rest of my life. I didn't want to end up like many co-workers I observed counting the years until retirement. You get one ride on the ferris wheel. If you need a change, go for it," he advises.

At nearly 50, he moved to Anderson to spend time with his parents and to look at Upstate colleges' nursing programs. With a bachelor's degree, he only needed prerequisite science classes to apply to the accelerated second degree nursing program at Clemson University. He began the journey at Tri-County, completing three semesters of courses before transferring to Clemson's 14-month program designed for individuals looking for a career change and who already have earned a bachelor's degree from a regionally or nationally accredited college or university.

"Tri-County played a pivotal role," said Rich. "I completed my prerequisites (four science classes, along with math, psychology, computer and literature classes) quickly and affordably with a seamless transfer to Clemson's accelerated second degree nursing program." He was among the 22 accepted into the program in 2012. He was in class with graduates of Clemson, the University of South Carolina, Medical University of SC, and the University of North Carolina. "My science preparation was equal to or better than my fellow students. I was extremely well prepared in science knowledge to complete the nursing program," he said. Rich graduated magna cum laude in December 2013 and is employed as an oncology nurse at Tuomey Health Care System in Sumter.

"Without the basic foundation in place, along with affordable tuition and high quality instruction from Tri-County, I don't know if I could have completed my degree at Clemson," he said.

Several weeks after beginning his new job as an oncology nurse, Rich sat down and wrote an e-mail to Dr. Booth, reflecting on his positive experience at Tri-County and how it had prepared him for a second bachelor's at Clemson.

"I realized what I learned at Tri-County I used hourly in classes at Clemson and even today in my nursing practice. People are always quick to say what went wrong. I wanted to let Dr. Booth know I appreciated Tri-County's value proposition, as well as the caliber of its instructors. Tri-County is not named on my degree, but I wanted him to know how grateful I am for the value and quality of education I received from the College."

Rich says he admired the motivation of Tri-County instructors and the quality of education. "The courses were truly challenging. Smaller classes and strong instructor involvement made my educational experience equivalent to any four-year degree. There was no cookie-cutter instruction. Each instructor has his or her own style of teaching and reaching students," he added.

"Without the basic foundation in place, along with affordable tuition and high quality instruction from Tri-County, I don't know if I could have completed my degree at Clemson."

Rich Snead



Katie Hollen and instructor
Andrea Barnett

A TRANSFORMATIVE CULTURE

New Teaching Model Creates Smoother, Shorter Academic Journey

Math has never been Katie Hollen's strong suit so she expected to struggle with the math section of the COMPASS placement test she took prior to enrolling at Tri-County. Scores revealed that she needed to increase her competencies in math and English by taking Comprehensive Studies classes during her first semester.

"It discouraged me. All I could see was the word remedial," said Katie. But after listening to the description of the new Express Track classes designed to help students move through their developmental coursework as quickly as possible by focusing on an individual learning path, she says, "I put my pride aside and got started. In the long run, without Express Track, I would have gotten frustrated and dropped out because I had no confidence then."

In an effort to improve retention and to promote student success, in 2013 the Comprehensive Studies Department began to rethink the way it delivers instruction.

Using the nationally known Emporium teaching model, Department Head Jennifer Hulehan and her math, English, and reading faculty created a modified design to help students move through their developmental coursework as quickly as possible.

"We've redesigned our pre-curricular courses to give students a smoother and shorter academic journey so they can move more quickly into their program of study. It's a proven new way to deliver the materials in a way that students can be academically successful," she added.

In the Express Track, each student only practices, learns, and masters what he/she individually needs to know rather spending days or even weeks reviewing material they've already mastered. The focus is on participatory learning.

"Express Track is an individual program for students with individual instruction. It's a new delivery method where the instructor is no longer the center of the class. The student is," said Jennifer. "It's based on the idea of taking the instructors off the stage and putting them in the classroom to offer individualized, on-demand instruction based on individual student needs," said Jennifer.

The department still offers three tracks of developmental coursework. In addition to the Express Track, there is the traditional track with 14-week courses. The second is a fast track, with seven-week courses held back to back.

"Express Track helped me to self discipline myself, and it prepared me for higher math and English classes," said Katie, who was named the Comprehensive Studies Department's Outstanding Student for 2014. As a sophomore associate in Science major, Katie maintains a 3.4 grade point average and is attending college on three scholarships awarded to her by the Cattleman's Association, along with a Pell grant and College Foundation scholarship from Duke Energy. Katie will graduate with no student loans.

"I'm a better student. School is my number-one priority," said Katie, whose career aspiration is to become a victim's advocate.

"Everyone at Tri-County has gone above and beyond to make me feel welcome. I'm going to be the first in my family to graduate from college. It's a big accomplishment to fulfill this lifelong dream."



A TRANSFORMATIVE CULTURE

Stormie Moore and her daughter, Makynzi

Moore Reflects on Journey from High School Dropout to Honor Grad

The last day of final exams for associate degree Nursing graduate Stormie Moore was tough. She wasn't struggling with academics and last-minute projects, but was feeling ambivalent in terms of letting go of people who had become like family and a place that she fondly calls her second home.

"This is the second most emotional day of my life—the first being the birth of my daughter. I'm leaving here with good memories," said Stormie, as she reflected on her transformational seven-year journey from pregnant high school dropout to college honor graduate. She readily admits she could have been a statistic.

"Many studies show that more often than not, adolescent mothers are undereducated and thus are more likely to suffer the effects of poverty. I'm extremely proud to say that I'm not going to be that statistic. Thanks to encouragement and motivation from some wonderful people, I don't have to be," said the Dacusville resident.

"Not everyone has to be some tally mark on a chart somewhere just because he or she hit a bump in the road. But at the same time I've been very lucky and fortunate to have had an outstanding support system. I've had wonderful instructors who are responsive and engaging and who know me by name. If you gear your mind to it, you really can do anything that you set out to do. If you're lucky enough to have help along the way, it makes you appreciate the journey even more."

The road was rocky in the beginning for the self-described rebellious teen who gave birth at 15 to daughter, Makynzi, now seven, and dropped out of high school. She said the social stigma of being an unwed teenage mother, along with a sketchy attendance record and blasé attitude toward academics, were major reasons for dropping out. "I had no motivation or support. The easy decision was to not go back to school and repeat the 10th grade."

With the arrival of her daughter came a newfound determination. "My daughter gave me super powers. I knew I needed a life change. She was my reality check," said Stormie. Intent on making a great life for Makynzi, she began to formulate a plan that included education. She found the Parenting Education and Family Literacy Program in Pickens and began to attend GED prep classes and took advantage of on-site child care. While there she met Christina Cobb, who talked with her about Palmetto Youth Connections (PYC) and its supportive services to WIA Youth participants in the form of course costs, transportation assistance, childcare, tools, uniforms, books, and monetary incentives for goal completion.

After passing the GED in 2008, Stormie signed up for Nurse Aide classes at Tri-County and got her first job as a Certified Nurse Aide. She continued classes in the College's Corporate and Community Education Division with PYC providing more funding toward CPR, Medical Terminology, and Phlebotomy certifications.

"It felt amazing to reach these milestones in my education," said Stormie, who entered Tri-County's associate degree Nursing program in 2010. Since then she's been on the Dean's, President's, and Academic Distinction lists and was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa national honor society.

At 22, she's entering a new career as a registered nurse at Heartland Healthcare in Berea and was named to the Workforce Investment Board's Youth Council.

"Stormie is very determined," said Janet Fuller, Nursing faculty member at Tri-County. "She's also intelligent, empathetic, caring, and compassionate, and puts the patients and their families first—always. You won't find a nicer, more loyal person. Her employer is very lucky to get her."

"I recall the first day of class when Mrs. Fuller asked us to look around the classroom. She said 'this is your family for the next two years.' I thought she was crazy. But I'll be darned if she wasn't right. Because of these people, I've met goals I didn't even know I had," Stormie said.

"The decisions we make today can affect us for the rest of our lives—if we let them. Life will have its up and downs. But there are more ups than downs if you have an education," said Stormie, who is the first in her immediate family to finish college. "Coming from where I was to where I am today, it's like night and day," she added. She has plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in Nursing after working for a while. "I don't want to stop here. I know I have it in me."



Stormie Moore, R.N., is working as first-shift supervisor at Heartland Healthcare East's Rehabilitation Unit in Greenville.



Wesley O'Kelley

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Koyo Student Co-op Trains for Lifelong Career

Over the next few years, Koyo Bearings in Walhalla will be facing a dilemma common to many manufacturers—filling jobs vacated by senior employees who take with them a wealth of knowledge and expertise.

As the company's longtime employees, some of whom have been there three decades, reach retirement age and plan to leave the company, today's challenge is to proactively hire a pipeline of qualified employees to succeed them, said Koyo's Human Resources Analyst Kellie Smith. These departures are creating opportunities for students like Wesley O'Kelley, a Machine Tool Technology major who is engaged in a work-based learning experience (co-op) that is giving him on-the-job training while he completes his degree.

"At age 20, I'm training for a lifelong career," said Wesley, a 2012 West-Oak High School graduate.

Smith estimates that 30 percent of the Tool and Die department, as well as several in the Maintenance Unit, will retire in the next three years. She is preparing for those vacancies by filling the slots with co-ops, like Wesley, and Tri-County graduates. "It's important to stay competitive and successful," she added. "In searching for the best candidates, we are turning to Tri-County to help fill these positions."

Tri-County offers a wide array of work-based learning experiences, including co-ops, internships, and technical scholars programs. The cooperative education program is designed to help meet the needs of local industries in their search for highly skilled employees. The co-op experience blends classroom studies with real work experience.

Job Placement Coordinator Cheryl Garrison spends much of her time recruiting students and companies for cooperative education experiences.

Since 2012 Cheryl has seen a 365 percent increase in the number of companies participating in work-based learning opportunities at Tri-County.

In October of 2012, there were 26 Tri-County students involved in work-based learning experiences at six companies in the College's service area. Just 18 months later, there are nearly 100 students placed at 28 companies and growing. "Every co-op is different, and the companies direct us in what they want," she said.

To be successful in finding and growing new technical employees, a college must have a symbiotic relationship with industry, she said.

Work-based learning opportunities are mutually beneficial for the company and the students, said Cheryl. "It helps to connect them to industry,

and it's an opportunity to earn and learn at the same time, to build a résumé, and to get hands-on training in their fields of study. It's a great way to learn the ropes at the company and to see if you are a good fit. By the time they graduate, they are work ready."

Shop Leader Brian Turpin, a 1989 Machine Tool Technology graduate, says precision, problem-solving proficiency, and independent/critical thinking skills are paramount for a machinist. "That's why we are pairing Wesley with different individuals in all areas of the shop so he can benefit from their expertise. There are a lot of people sharing their knowledge with Wesley," said Turpin.

"Wesley is working on real projects for the department and is really contributing to the process," said Turpin.

"They have put me on real jobs for the company to make parts within 10,000th of an inch for our equipment," said Wesley. "I enjoy being out in the shop learning every day. Every part is different, every dimension is different. It's not a repetitive job where you do the same thing every day," said Wesley, who works eight hours a day, four days a week in the paid co-op while maintaining an A average and Dean's List status.

"We are looking for individuals well into their first year of college, with a GPA of B or better, who can understand blueprint reading, measuring equipment, and basic machinery. That's what we have in Wesley," said

Frank Owens, supervisor for the Machine Shop and Maintenance Department. "Wesley won't stop in the Machine Shop. He will move into the Tool and Die area quickly."

"We will continue to grow our work-based learning opportunities for students in the Engineering and Industrial Technology Division and have been expanding opportunities for students in the Business and Public Services Division," said Cheryl.

"We want all students to have 21st-century work skills. These work-based learning opportunities are a win-win-win," said Cheryl. "For our community partners, we are able to fill the pipeline of employees who know the facilities, equipment, and culture. For our College, we receive direct feedback about the quality of our programs, as well as input from students and industry on how to adjust our curricula to meet changing demands. For our students, they are able to quickly put into practice the skills they learn in class and enjoy a more relevant learning experience."

Currently, Koyo Bearing's Walhalla plant has five co-ops and interns on board. "We want more co-ops like Wesley in the future," Smith noted.

"Nearly every single person in the machine shop at Koyo Bearings in Walhalla has graduated from the Machine Tool Technology program and a vast majority of those employed in tool and die. Of the 600 employed at the facility, at least half have a degree or have taken classes through the Corporate and Community Education Division."



~Kellie Smith
TCTC Alumna and Human
Resources Analyst
Koyo Bearings
Walhalla, SC

WORK-BASED LEARNING PARTNERSHIPS BY COUNTY (AS OF JUNE 2014)

Anderson County

AFCO
Baldor Electric Company
CLCX
Electrolux USA
Glen Raven, Inc.
Hill Electric
JPS Composite Materials
McGee Heating and Air
Michelin North America
Packaging Corporation of America
Robert Bosch
SMF, Inc.
Trailerlogic
Unitex USA
Walgreens Distribution Center

Shaw Industries
The Parenting Place
United Tool and Mold, Inc.

Oconee County

BorgWarner
Duke Energy
Greenfield Industries
Johnson Controls
Koyo Bearings USA (JTEKT)
RBC Aerostructures, LLC
Sandvik
Schneider Electric
U.S. Engine Valve

Greenville/Spartanburg Counties

BMW
GE Works
Seltrol
The Blood Connection

Pickens County

Blue Ridge Electric
Cooperative
Comatrol (Danfoss)
Kongsburg Automotive
Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Co., Inc.



Robin Kyle

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Learning Beyond Campus Impacts Kyle's Life, Career Choice

Two years after graduating with an associate in Arts degree from Tri-County, Robin Kyle still keeps in contact with former English instructor Todd Crisp-Simons and never misses a chance to thank him for leading an annual Boston study tour that she says impacted and changed her life in positive ways.

"It was the experience of a lifetime," said Robin, of the Learning Beyond Campus summer program whereby students travel to Boston for a seven-week course titled Early American Studies. Classes meet for three weeks on campus and in early June, they fly to Boston to study the New England area. The class combines History 201 and English 201.

"The trip ignited in me a giant curiosity and love for American history," said Robin, now pursuing a bachelor's degree in History with an emphasis in Public History and a minor in English at Clemson University. She plans to graduate in December 2014 and go on to earn a master's in History. "The trip truly impacted my life by giving me direction on my career path," said Robin, who began college at Tri-County for the first time at age 43.

"Going to Boston brought history to life for me in ways that just reading could not have accomplished. The two combined created a desire for me to explore our places of history, and I am so very grateful to Coach (Crisp-Simons) for that gift. My trip to Boston changed my life in so many ways. I have always enjoyed history and literature, but by going to Boston, it brought everything I read to life and allowed me to experience history fully," she said.

For Robin, the highlight of the trip was visiting the old North Church where she, a lifelong Baptist, took communion for the first time in her life. "It was a spiritual moment in my life to take part in a service at a church where Paul Revere was a bell-ringer as a 15-year-old boy."

"Seeing these historical sites and visiting the gravesites of renowned authors and historical figures made it real in ways that reading textbooks never could. It gave me a true appreciation for history. Getting to know the instructors and students outside of class was a bonding experience, and we became like family. I wouldn't trade it for anything," she added.

The trip impacted her life in a different way—one that changed her career choice. As she later reflected on her travels, she made a decision to change her major from English Education to Public History at Clemson. "I always said I wanted to give back the gift that Coach gave me as a wonderful teacher. I wanted to come back to Tri-County after getting my master's and teach. He knows the material so well and enjoys imparting his knowledge. When I evaluate my professors, I always use Coach as the gold standard, the model to emulate," said Robin.

Although she still aspires to teach one day, she changed her major to Public History because of its versatility in job offerings. An internship at Pendleton's historic homes, Ashtabula and Woodburn, in fall 2013 cemented her decision to pursue work at a museum after graduation.

"Tri-County changed my life," said Robin. "Since graduating from Tri-County, I have succeeded beyond my wildest dreams by being accepted into Clemson's Sigma Tau Delta English honor society and Phi Alpha Theta History honor society," she said.

"I'm so grateful. I wouldn't be at Clemson without Tri-County and people like Coach, Dr. Chad Gregory, and Robin McFall. I want to be like them and one day teach with passion, humor, and knowledge. Each one brings his/her discipline alive."

She says she will never forget a thought-provoking piece of advice Crisp-Simons gave her in Boston. "He said don't make A's to impress the instructor, make them for yourself. It's about the journey, not the grade. What's important is what you take away from the experience."



Bethany Conrad-Terry, Deborah Brock, and Spencer Heringa

MENTORING

Colleagues Connect through Learning College 101 Class

Bethany Conrad-Terry is the first to admit she was a little nervous about beginning her first semester as a full-time English instructor at Tri-County.

“I was thrilled when I was offered the job, but it was intimidating because in addition to teaching five classes, I had much to learn about advising, answering daily questions from students, and about the College and its services,” said Bethany.

New to the area, she was concerned about feeling disconnected and was looking for a way to immerse herself into a new workplace with new colleagues. She was relieved to learn about the pilot course designed to acclimate full-time faculty to the Tri-County culture while also providing them with the tools and resources they need to facilitate student learning.

Last year the College began a pilot project, titled “LC 101: Teaching in our Learning College,” which allows these new faculty an opportunity to connect with colleagues. Deborah Brock, medical laboratory technology faculty member, as well as faculty liaison for professional development, leads the class that is continuing each semester.

The group meets weekly and participates in presentations about tools for teaching, assisting our veterans and military students, the Learning College academic support network, advisor training, and introduces participants to assessment tools Smarter Measure, Degree Works, Starfish, and Early Alert. Later, they discuss it among themselves and with Deborah. “The major focus of group meetings is to encourage faculty to implement diverse teaching and learning strategies that accommodate the learning styles of students.”

Biology instructor Spencer Heringa began implementing active learning techniques “to get students out of their seats and participating in more engaged learning.” Using role-playing exercises to illustrate a process,

such as respiration, students use their memory to visualize concepts and therefore master the material by seeing the big picture, Spencer said. As a result, he saw test scores for that chapter of material increase between 19 to 37 percent. He also learned in LC 101 the value of regularly surveying students throughout the semester, not just at the end. “I developed a goal sheet for students to complete before the withdrawal period to evaluate why they are in the class, their current grade, and their goal grade. It determines what they have done to date and what they need to do to get on track, if necessary. It’s been very helpful with retention,” he said.

“Our department tends to be rather insular, and it was nice to see how a faculty member runs a Biology lab or an education class,” said Ashley Polasek, English instructor. “It was helpful because I got to see different approaches to teaching and have worked some of them into my classroom,” she said.

“We learn from our students each year and adjust our teaching style to reach them. The beauty of the class is the collaboration of eight different ideas instead of just one,” Ashley said.

“I’m more efficient at what I do because of this class. Students benefit from this knowledge, not just me,” said Bethany. “I feel connected, a part of the College,” she added.

“It’s rewarding to help faculty obtain the skills they need to do their jobs better. It benefits faculty in the long run because helping students makes you more effective in the classroom,” said Deborah.



MENTORING

Jackie Blakley and Soffron Robinson

Twenty20 Mentoring Program Plays Role in Student's Success

Soffion Robinson went through most of her adult life hiding the fact that she dropped out of high school at age 17.

It wasn't until she was nearly 40 when she confessed to her pastor and later to her three high-school-age-daughters that she never earned a high school diploma in her home state of New York. "I carried that secret for decades because I was so embarrassed that I didn't finish high school. I had low self-esteem. I compensated for my lack of education by reading the dictionary daily so I could learn new words, carry on conversations with people, and even help my children with their homework."

Friends and family urged her to focus on the future, not the past.

"They saw things I didn't see in myself and encouraged me to hold my head up and to begin studying for the GED. I was afraid, but I said I'm going back to school. I bought the GED book and studied through Anderson Adult Education." In 2011 a very proud Soffion earned her GED. The first thing she did was head to Tri-County to talk to a career counselor. "Going to college had always been a dream of mine," she said. After ending two abusive relationships, Soffion supported her family as a struggling single parent, working as a Certified Nurse Aide at local nursing homes, as a supervisor at retail stores, and a distribution manager for a local newspaper. "I worked in many fields, but I love helping people and want to be a registered nurse." She enrolled in the University Transfer program with the goal of entering the associate degree Nursing program. "It was a whole new world," she said of entering college at age 44.

In the last two years, serious health issues developed which have slowed her down but not stopped her. She says nothing will stand in the way of her education. "There will always be obstacles in life, but obstacles can be moved. You can go across or around them, but don't allow them to stop you. You have to persevere. I call it BAB—Building a Bridge—to get where you need to be."

Soffion did well her first semester but noticed she was tiring easily. She was enrolled in summer school, when one morning, she noticed she had no feeling in her legs, which had swelled to twice their normal size, and she had difficulty breathing. Her face also was swollen. A friend took her to the emergency room where she was diagnosed with double pneumonia and admitted for tests. The second diagnosis was Guillain-Barré syndrome, a disorder in which the body attacks its own immune system, damaging nerve cells. In addition, she was diagnosed with Sarcoidosis, an inflammatory disease that affects multiple organs in the body, but mostly the lungs and lymph glands. Both can be managed with medication.

Soffion was hospitalized for 20 days and upon release from the hospital, she was confined to a wheelchair for more than six months, but she returned to class with a fierce determination to push through. Not long after, she learned about Twenty20, a mentoring and personal relationship-building program that kicked off in fall 2013.

Dan Holland, dean of student development, and Disabilities Coordinator Stephanie Winkler teamed together to design a program for Tri-County that is similar to the positive mentoring experiences they had as college freshmen.

Twenty faculty and staff each serve as coaches for twenty students. Twenty20 coaches serve as a support system and friendly face for their students. Coaches also act as a conduit to services and success.



Soffion Robinson is pictured at the kick-off luncheon for the Twenty20 mentoring and personal relationship-building program.

Soffion was paired with Jackie Blakley, dean of Business and Public Services, and the two bonded instantly. "She introduced herself and said 'I am here if you need me.' Those weren't empty words—she meant them," said Soffion. "She encouraged us to come by her office anytime. When I was struggling in my Biology class, she told me about the Tutoring Center where I got help, and my grades improved. It helps to talk things through."

"She encouraged me, also," said Jackie. "Soffion is so inspirational. She has persevered through it all. The Twenty20 program is exactly what I need to be doing. I really enjoy meeting with the students and getting to know them on a personal basis. I have learned a lot from them, and I have tried to provide a listening ear and advice when needed. This is an excellent opportunity to help students outside of the classroom."

"When I came to Tri-County, I didn't believe in myself. Now I know I can achieve anything, no matter what," said Soffion. That includes earning an associate in Arts degree this past May. Jackie was one of the ones cheering her on. "It was one of the best days of my life," said Soffion.

"When I saw her walk across the stage, knowing about many of the things that she had been through, I was inspired," said Jackie. "I realized that she refused to give up. And the look of joy on her face was priceless. I am so proud of Soffion."

"Tri-County is a family to me, with instructors and mentors who are always willing to help me. My friendship with Jackie will endure past graduation. It played a role in my maturity and success. My goal is to come back and teach in the Nursing program. I want to give back like those who have helped me. I also want to be a Twenty20 mentor one day," said Soffion, whose daughter is a student at Tri-County and is enrolled in the 2014 Twenty20 program with Jackie as her mentor.

"Everyone needs someone to encourage him or her. We can't go through life by ourselves. I did it for years, and it doesn't work. I want to help someone else along in his or her journey."



Disabilities Coordinator Stephanie Winkler, Marine Corps veteran Rhett Keaton, and Sheila Stone-Gray, LMSW

MENTORING

Patriots' Place Offers Resources and Counseling Services for Veterans

Seven years ago, one hour after graduating early from North Buncombe High School in Weaverville, North Carolina, 18-year-old Rhett Keaton was on a bus headed to Parris Island for 13 weeks of Marine Corps recruit training.

"It was a mindset. I was going to the Marines," remembers Rhett, who during two deployments, served as an infantry rifleman and gunner. By age 22, he had been in 15 different countries.

Six years later, he didn't re-enlist with the Marine Corps and began a job search that included applying for employment ranging from railroad labor to police officer to clerk. He finally found work doing demolitions for a temp agency. "Like a lot of veterans coming home from the service, I discovered that I wasn't marketable. Sacrifice isn't a skill. I kept thinking, I was a marksmanship instructor for 250 officers weekly on the rifle range. How did I get here? I decided to go to college and get on track."

His goal is to re-enter the Marine Corps as a commissioned officer and is working toward a bachelor's degree needed to do so. Rhett moved to Central and enrolled at Tri-County, where he eased into his first semester as a Business Management student. Now invested in his education, he has surprised himself by maintaining a B average. His plan is to transfer to a four-year university, graduate, and enter the Marines as a commissioned officer before age 28 (the age cut off for Marine officer entry).

Rhett says he will achieve that goal, thanks to Stephanie Winkler and Patriots' Place, a new Veterans Center that opened in November 2013 on

Tri-County's Pendleton Campus. "He is among the more than 200 veterans who are enrolled at Tri-County who need a place to call their own," said Stephanie, the College's Disabilities Coordinator, who worked to create a veterans center that will serve as a one-stop shop for enrollment processes, resources, and a place to hang out and talk.

"Patriots' Place is a gathering spot where they can get to know each other, study together, have meetings, and access resources. Veterans' peers are the biggest support system they have. They rally for each other," she said. In addition, Sheila Stone-Gray, LMSW, a licensed professional counselor, is available by appointment to give counseling to combat veterans, she said.

"Some of our veterans are suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) as a result of their military service. In our conversations, I see and hear their struggles and how it's tough to readjust to civilian life," said Stephanie. "Patriots' Place is a quiet place where they feel safe."

She has become the go-to person for Rhett and other veterans who have questions and problems or need advice. When Rhett miscalculated his book cost for summer courses and realized he wouldn't receive a book stipend through the GI Bill, he panicked at the thought of losing his opportunity to become commissioned as a Marine Officer by his 28th birthday. The first person he thought of was Stephanie, with whom he has worked throughout the year as president of the Student Veterans Club. "Basically I had given up on the idea of taking four summer

classes. Mrs. Winkler responded to me with nothing but positive hope. The next day, she found a scholarship which paid every penny of my book fee. Not only did she seek out this information but she facilitated the entire transaction.

“Without her I would have had very little hope of accomplishing this goal. Mrs. Winkler has helped dozens of veterans in the same way. Because of her spirit, the veteran support efforts are working.”

“It is our goal for the place to grow and flourish with more services for our veterans,” said Stephanie. “It’s gratifying to work with veterans. Tri-County is full of people who want to help.”

Patriots’ Place, College’s First Veterans Center, Opens

The reason we can stand here today and do what we do is because of the men and women in uniform. I never forget that and I appreciate it every day,” Dr. Booth told a crowd of veterans, students, faculty, and staff as the College celebrated Veterans Day 2013 by opening the first veterans center.

Tri-County veterans needed a place to call their own, said the College’s Disabilities Coordinator Stephanie Winkler, who worked to create Patriots’ Place, a veterans center that serves as a one-stop for enrollment processes, resources, and a place to hang out and talk with fellow veterans. “It gives veterans a home on campus. Veterans take care of other veterans,” she said.

“We have more than 200 veterans on all of our campuses. This will be a place where they can get to know each other, study together, have meetings, and access resources. Veterans’ peers are the biggest support system they have. They rally for each other,” she said.

Currently the College offers the following services for its veterans: disabilities services, career services, a financial aid veterans coordinator, veterans transfer credit; and a Student Veterans of America TCTC Chapter with veteran and psychology instructor Stacey Frank as faculty advisor.

In an effort to connect with groups in the community, Stephanie has partnered with veterans’ community groups and arranged for Sheila Stone-Gray, a social worker, to visit once a week. She also formed the Veterans and Advocates Leadership Team (VALT) which is comprised of leaders in the veterans’ community. With VALT assistance, our students can get immediate help and are connected to resources quickly and easily,” Stephanie said.

“We also hope to educate our faculty more about Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and other veterans’ issues in general and the special struggles they face,” she added.

The Vet Center and Upstate Warrior Solutions hold regular hours at least two days a week.



President Booth, at podium, addressed a crowd of veterans, students, faculty, and staff as the College celebrated Veterans Day 2013 by opening Patriots’ Place located in the Student Center, Suite 155, on the Pendleton Campus.

“We want to staff our center to meet your needs. Tell us what you need. Let us know how we can help you to get from where you are to where you need to be. That’s my commitment to you,” Dr. Booth said.

“We have more than 200 veterans on all of our campuses. This will be a place where they can get to know each other, study together, have meetings, and access resources. Veterans’ peers are the biggest support system they have. They rally for each other.”

Stephanie Winkler

A photograph showing two people, a man and a woman, sitting at a table in a classroom or workshop. The man, on the left, is wearing a yellow polo shirt and glasses. The woman, on the right, is wearing a blue shirt and a light-colored cardigan, also with glasses. They are both looking down at a small metal component on the table. The man is holding a small tool, possibly a screwdriver. In the background, there is a computer monitor displaying a website with the SCMC logo and text about manufacturing certification. A purple banner with white text is overlaid on the bottom left of the image.

MEETING WORKFORCE NEEDS

Instructor Ron Humphries and Lauren McGarry

SCMC Credential Complements Lauren McGarry's IET Degree

Lauren McGarry had no idea what an associate degree or SCMC certification could do for her in terms of earning potential when she entered the Industrial Electronics Technology (IET) program.

Seeking a challenging career that pays a sustainable wage, in 2011 then 47-year old Lauren enrolled at Tri-County with a résumé that included two years of college in the early 1980s and a series of eclectic jobs that she says were interesting but not fulfilling. At 18 she was a laborer on a construction site; she worked in manufacturing as a quality control inspector and project supervisor, as well as a secretary and later realtor in the 1990s, and in 2009 became owner of Everything Grows Farms in Pendleton.

"I had higher expectations of myself, and I wanted to earn more money. With my IET degree and SCMC credentials, I am able to earn at least three times what I was able to earn before. That is huge," said Lauren who was suddenly widowed in 2013 with the unexpected death of her husband of 11 years.

As one of a handful of females in a still male-dominated field, she entered the classes with apprehension, but it wasn't her gender that rattled her—it was self doubt. "I thought I would be in over my head, academically speaking. I had been out of school so long, but I surprised myself. I like solving problems and am adept at fixing things. I had worked in manufacturing and used computers daily as a realtor so it wasn't a difficult transition," she said.

The hardest part was taking the first few steps in determining a career path. "I was lost in regard to what I should be doing with my life. After talking with a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Career Counselor about my previous jobs and interests, she showed me how to translate my interests and strengths into a career choice." In addition to the WorkKeys test (Lauren scored a gold level), she took a Kuder Skills Assessment test where she received a 92 in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics skills cluster, which helped in the decision to take an Industrial Technology career path. "I realized that I had skills that would transfer to the field of mechatronics. I found my niche," she said.

"Tri-County instructors were so helpful and professional. I realized if I applied myself, I could do this. It was a challenging whirlwind in a positive way. I made friends and found fabulous instructors who really get fulfillment out of helping students."

The unexpected loss of her husband set her back emotionally and financially, but she forged ahead, using school and a new full-time job as her therapy. "Two semesters into my degree my husband passed away, and for financial reasons, I took a second-shift job as a team leader for a Greenville company." Existing on four hours of sleep at night, she attended day classes full time and pulled second shift, sometimes arriving at her Pendleton home at 3 a.m. She continued the job after graduating with a 3.72 GPA and as the department's outstanding IET graduate in August of 2013. She also was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa honor society and was named to the Dean's and President's Lists.

“My husband was really behind me and supported my educational journey. He knew it was important for me to get back to school. That’s why earning my degree was so important to me. Unfortunately, he didn’t get to see me graduate but that just made me more determined and proud,” she said.

After six months at the job in Greenville, in February of 2014, she was laid off. She decided to use the break in employment to gain additional skills to enhance her marketability even more. In May she enrolled in the newly revamped South Carolina Manufacturing Certification training. Taught by Tri-County’s Corporate and Community Education instructors, the 200-hour curriculum includes the opportunity to earn eight nationally recognized certifications with an out-of-pocket cost of only \$20 to the student.

“The SCMC certificate gives applicants a leg up, and many employers consider it to be equivalent to a year of industry experience.”

Ron Humphries

“The training is a stackable credential with WorkKeys® and the nationally-recognized MSSC training credential that prepares individuals to be work ready from day one,” said Ron Humphries, associate program director for the Center for Workforce Excellence at Tri-County. Ron noted, “We treat the class like a job—you must be on time and ready to work. In class they earn an OSHA 10-hour safety card, a Six Sigma yellow belt certification and a national MSSC credential in safety, quality, product system, and manufacturing awareness, which translates into stackable credentials for college credit.”

After they pass the last certification exam, participants receive eight hours of simulation training where they apply the quality, safety, and lean manufacturing skills learned in class.

“The SCMC certificate gives applicants a leg up, and many employers consider it to be equivalent to a year of industry experience,” said Ron. For Lauren, it was another credential that would complement her IET degree, as well as the Mechatronics degree she is currently working on. Her plan is to graduate in the fall of 2015. She credits WIA and its career counselors with leading her toward the Industrial Engineering curriculum and Tri-County instructors with preparing her to be a multi-skilled job candidate in today’s advanced manufacturing.

“If they had offered Mechatronics back when I graduated from high school, I would have gone to college immediately. But it was worth the wait,” she said.

COLLEGE NAMED A BACK TO WORK 50+ PARTICIPANT IN AARP FOUNDATION INITIATIVE

BACK TO WORK 50+ at Tri-County Technical College is a new initiative aimed at putting unemployed individuals, age 50 and above, back into the workforce. Tri-County was one of 12 community colleges nationwide chosen to receive a new AARP Foundation grant.

The two-year, \$165,200 BACK TO WORK 50+ grant targets the needs of low-income, older adult women, and offers training in healthcare support, office and administrative support, and computer occupations that leads to in-demand jobs.

“The Corporate and Community Education Division is able to offer a number of training scholarships in select QuickJobs certificates that include Administrative Microsoft Office Specialist, Medical Office Billing and Electronic Health Records, Computer Technician A+ and Web Design,” said Sandra Strickland, program manager for the grant.

“This grant addresses a critical issue with individuals over the age of 50—obtaining a job with a sustainable wage,” said Sandra.



READYSC™ TRAINS WORKERS FOR NEW, EXPANDING INDUSTRIES

Throughout the year, readySC™ conducted pre-hire training classes at the College's Industrial Technology Center for McLaughlin Body Company. Last year the company expanded to Anderson County and is recruiting current and future workforce needs through readySC™ training and Tri-County welding graduates. One of the deciding factors in choosing Anderson as a location was the availability of skilled labor and the strength of Tri-County Technical College. To date, the majority of the individuals trained through readySC™ have been hired by the company. Among them is Justin Kunkle, seen here, who is employed as a welder/robotics technician.



MEETING WORKFORCE NEEDS

Scholarship recipient Rob Clinedinst, middle, with Roger Chamberlin, president of the Anderson Rotary Club, and Tammy Stout-Fiske, manager of annual giving at Tri-County

Anderson Rotary Club Scholarship Supports Student Veteran

Sgt. E5 Rob Clinedinst intended to devote his life and career to serving and protecting his country and state.

He spent 11 years in the U. S. Army as an airborne military policeman and later an active reservist in the SC. Army National Guard as a combat engineer with tours of duty in both Afghanistan and Iraq. His career included a decade as a S.C. highway patrolman and three years as a private military contractor assigned to elite military units under the Special Operations Command.

But health issues resulting from being hit by roadside bombs and injuries to his chest and back, coupled with personal family losses, helped make the decision to leave overseas and find work at home.

“It was my pleasure, my job, and my duty to serve,” said Rob, who left the military and civilian law enforcement and changed careers at the age of 38. Wanting something new, he decided to go to college full time to earn an associate degree in Nursing.

He has spent the last year reinventing himself—and looking for work.

“Nothing was available for me,” said the Belton resident. “I applied for everything—stocking shelves, home delivery, minimum wage third-shift jobs. I was overqualified for everything,” he said. “I wanted to leave law enforcement, and I have some medical training helping with battlefield injuries. My life has been spent helping people. As a registered nurse, I plan and hope to continue to help and serve my community in times of need.”

Finally, he secured part-time employment on weekends. Meeting monthly household expenses is a challenge, said the married, father of three children, ages 9, 8, and 5. The GI Bill, lottery tuition assistance, and a Pell grant combined paid for spring 2014 tuition, but books would have to be paid out of pocket and would devastate an already strained family budget.

He had applied for a scholarship through the Foundation and had his fingers crossed something would come through. Then he received a letter telling him the Rotary Club of Anderson granted him a scholarship. “It blew my mind. It came at the right time to pay for books. Without this scholarship, I would be forced to pay for them out of my own pocket. This scholarship had a great impact on my family. It’s hard being a husband, father of three, a full-time student, and working at the same time. Sometimes things are so crazy I don’t know if I am coming or going.”

Good things continued to happen.

Around the time he sent a copy of his Rotary Club thank-you letter to the Foundation Office, Cross Country in Anderson called the Foundation looking for a veteran to assist through its Veterans Appliance Aid program whereby the company replaces old or faulty appliances with new ones. The staff immediately thought of Rob.

“Not 10 minutes prior to receiving the call from Cross Country, I told my wife that a new washer and dryer were at the top of the list for next year’s tax return check. I hoped they would survive the year. Then Stephanie from Cross Country called and asked if I needed an appliance replaced. I got choked up. You hear about this stuff and read about it, but you never think it will happen to you. I’m very humbled. Without people like Rotary, Cross Country, Tri-County, and my parents helping me, continuing my education would be extremely difficult.”

He wants to give back. Rob plans to assume a student leadership role with Patriots’ Place, the new veterans center on the Pendleton Campus that serves as a one-stop shop for enrollment processes, resources, and counseling for veterans who are now students. “It’s a brotherhood. I want to help in any way I can.” Rob plans to graduate in Spring 2015.

The Foundation contributed a total of \$457,118 toward student scholarships for the fiscal year. These funds assisted approximately 465 students.



Mike Higgins, Itron's senior operations manager, far left, and Brooke Dobbins, human resources manager, far right, are pictured with a group of Tri-County graduates who are employed at the West Union plant.

Foundation Honors Itron as Philanthropist of the Year

The Tri-County Technical College Foundation named Itron, Inc., a global technology company for the utility industry, the 2013 recipient of its Philanthropist of the Year award.

This is the Foundation's highest and most prestigious honor reserved for individuals, foundations, companies, trusts, organizations, or other entities that have made a significant financial contribution, either cash or non-cash, to the Foundation to support the work of the College.

Itron Operations Manager Mike Worley accepted the award. "On behalf of Itron, I'd like to thank the College and the Foundation for this recognition," Worley said. "Tri-County offers a unique educational opportunity that aligns well with the needs of our business. At our West Union facility, we build high-tech products that are modernizing the electrical grid, and we seek employees with the right mix of technical skills. We employ almost 40 Tri-County Technical College graduates who play an important role in manufacturing technologies that are shaping the way electricity is delivered," he said.

"The College offers a very fertile and encouraging educational ground for those types of students," Worley said, "We are very grateful for the opportunity to work with Tri-County. The College and its graduates are among the things that contribute to our product innovation."

"Itron is strongly committed to supporting local communities and has been a philanthropic partner with Tri-County since 1988. Their commitment with the College and the Foundation is evident through its generous gifts over the years to establish two endowments," said Foundation Chair Peggy Deane.

The Itron Teaching Chair was created to support the professional development of mathematics faculty while the Itron Technology Endowment provides support for the College's technology needs. In addition to establishing these two endowments, Itron has been a sponsor of the Spring Open and Fall Classic golf tournaments.

Itron has given more than \$189,000 to the Foundation over the past 25 years, earning the company recognition on the College's prestigious Wall of Honor.



Itron Operations Manager Mike Worley, third from left, along with Katherine Crouse, marketing manager, left, and Brooke Dobbins, human resources manager, right, accepted the Philanthropist of the Year award. Pictured with them is Dr. Booth.



Doug Wilson and President Booth

Doug Wilson Honored with 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award

Doug Wilson is energized by investing in others' lives, whether it's building race cars with his teenage nephew on weekends, mentoring and teaching young associates through his job at Robert Bosch L.L.C. in Anderson, or leading the men's ministry group at his church.

"I like to take what I've learned over the years and help others to be better individuals," said Doug, whose work with Tri-County to design, launch, and lead the Bosch Technical Scholars program earned him the College's 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award, which highlights his dedication to his alma mater.

The recipient of this award must have been awarded a degree, diploma, or certificate from Tri-County; must have graduated at least one year prior; and must have made significant contributions to the College, the Alumni Association, or the community.

A 1991 Electronics Engineering Technology (EET) graduate and Senior Associate Development Specialist at Bosch, Doug spent the past year implementing a scholars program with Tri-County evening students in their last semester. The program helps students to adapt to their workplaces more quickly by getting hands-on experience in various areas of the manufacturing process, introducing them to departmental colleagues and their job functions, and providing an overview of policies and procedures, as well as an understanding of plant protocol.

"We're getting ready-made technicians who will feel engaged right from the beginning, and therefore have a personal and professional investment in the company," said Doug.

Since the program launched in February 2013, Wilson and the Bosch team have collaborated with faculty and staff providing feedback that has led to improvements in program development and curriculum design. He joined Industrial Electronics Technology faculty members and career services staff as presenters

at the Automation Conference 2014 in Chicago, Illinois. The team's topic was "Bridging the Skills Gap: Enhancing the Talent Pipeline through Local Technical College Collaboration."

Doug wishes he had had the benefits of a mentoring experience when he was a senior at Crescent High, working 40 hours a week at Culp Woven Velvets while going to high school. He was hired as a full-time employee after graduating and worked there seven years before contemplating entering college. "I needed a change to move forward, and I knew that change had to be me. Education was the change I needed," he said.

He entered the EET program and continued to work and attend night classes. Before graduating, he was hired at Bosch as a technician, and he finished the degree with a supervisor's encouragement. He worked with the start-up operation of the Relays Department in Anderson and trained in Germany. "I thought I'd be a lifelong technician," he said, but his role has expanded over the years. He has been promoted several times and in January 2013 was named Senior Associate Development Specialist. He is responsible for the performance management and technical development for all technicians at the Anderson plant. That includes training and teaching Bosch scholars during their work schedule at the plant. "I enjoy being a teacher," he said. "I'm hands on. I encourage them to ask questions and I support an open-forum classroom," he said.

He serves on Tri-County's Mechatronics Advisory Committee and is active in his church, serving as the Men's Ministry Chair at Varennes Heights Baptist Church.

RECIPIENTS OF THE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

2003—**Nancy Ratliff**, '86 (Office Systems Technology)

2004—**Jimmy Edmonds**, '67 (Electronics Engineering Technology)

2005—**Dr. Lewis Wilson**, '72 (Medical Laboratory Technology)

2006—**Dr. Valerie Ramsey**, '88 (University Transfer)

2007—**Cheryl Allmon**, '77 (Textile Management)

2008—**Scott Webber**, '79 (Industrial Engineering Technology)

2009—**John Powell**, '72 (Marketing)

2010—**Greg Sosebee**, '80 (Civil Engineering Technology)

2011—**Hugh Burgess**, '77 (Engineering)

2012—**Faces of the Decades** (in honor of the College's Fiftieth Anniversary):

Walter McGee, '67 (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning)

Carl Anderson, '75 (Criminal Justice)

Ethel Pettigrew, '80 (Business/Accounting)

Wanda Johnson, '95 (Criminal Justice)

Tracy Bowie, '03 (Business/Accounting)

2013—**Rhonda Deaton-Gibby**, '87 (Office Systems Technology)



Bosch Donates \$100,000 to Support Technical Training

Executives from the Bosch plant in Anderson visited the College to present a \$100,000 check for enhancements to the Mechatronics and Industrial Electronics Technology labs. In return, the College has renamed the labs, Robert Bosch Mechatronics Lab and the Robert Bosch Industrial Electronics Technology Lab, respectively.

John Kuta, senior vice president and technical plant manager of the Bosch Anderson plant, front right, presented Dr. Booth, front left, with a \$100,000 check to support the Mechatronics and Industrial Electronics Technology programs with new equipment, more classes and adjunct faculty. Pictured with them are faculty, staff, and Bosch Scholars.

“Bosch values the relationship we have with Tri-County because you understand the work we do in this industry,” said Kuta. “You develop the curricula to meet the needs of industry, and as a result, your students are successful in the world of work. Most importantly, Tri-County listens to feedback from industry partners, their students, and alumni. Strong technical talent brings innovation to life. Manufacturing is what helps make our economy and our company go—and grow,” he said.



U.S. Engine Valve Funds Equipment

U.S. Engine Valve/Nittan Valve made a \$20,000 donation to the Foundation to purchase equipment for the Corporate and Community Education Division. Pictured from left to right are Rick Cothran, dean of our Corporate and Community Education Division; Courtney White, our director of development; Keizo Harada, technical manager for U.S. Engine Valve; Dr. Booth; Mary Ann Craft, retired manager of human resources at U.S. Engine Valve; Bobby Dover, plant manager, Westminster U.S. Engine Valve plant; and John Lummus, former vice president of economic and institutional advancement at the College.



Welding Program Gets Boost with \$50,000 Grant From Duke Energy Foundation

A \$50,000 grant from the shareholder-funded Duke Energy Foundation is giving the Welding students a real-world advantage. Pictured from left are Dr. Booth; Scott Miller, district manager for Duke Energy; George Acker, S.C. vice president for government and community relations for Duke Energy; Paul Phelps, welding program coordinator; and W.H. (Ham) Hudson, a member of the Tri-County Commission.

The grant will enable students to train and learn skills in an accelerated one-year training model that focuses on learning real-world applications used in local industries.

In addition to helping meet the training needs of our 120 welding students, it will address the workforce needs of the College’s manufacturing partners.

“This is an opportunity for us to help with the human infrastructure,” said Mr. Acker. “It’s a perfect example of a good opportunity to invest in the future workforce.”



Schneider Electric Contributes to Technology Endowment

Schneider Electric in Seneca made a \$5,000 contribution to the Foundation’s Technology Endowment. The College’s Technology Endowment provides a perpetual source of funding that the College uses to update equipment, software and technical infrastructure across its community campuses. Rapidly changing technology is redefining the skills needed for fast-growing and high-paying careers, making it imperative for Tri-County to keep pace with training students for today’s sophisticated workplace. Pictured, from left to right, are Ted Stokes, engineering manager at Schneider and an evening adjunct instructor for Tri-County’s Industrial Electronics Technology program; Courtney White, director of development; Larry Smith, Schneider Electric plant manager; and Bill Keene, quality manager at Schneider.



The ninth annual Fall Classic Golf Tournament raised \$30,000 to support the Connect to College (C2C) program. The lead sponsor for the tournament was Tri Tech, USA in Liberty. The company's owner, Joe Bacigalupo, center, played in the morning tournament. Since 2005, the Tri-County Technical College Foundation has hosted this tournament and to date has raised \$262,000 to support special initiatives at the College.



Connect to College students attended the tournament and served as volunteers. Pictured from left to right are Reese Miller, of Easley; Chesley Tench (kneeling), former C2C Program Resource Assistant; Judah Slack, of Westminster; C2C Director Diana Walter; and Liz Stafford, of Liberty.

C2C offers academically capable youth between the ages of 17 and 20 the opportunity to simultaneously earn their high school diploma and college credit, up to and including a postsecondary credential. The first of its kind in South Carolina, C2C is a program for students who, for a variety of reasons, have faced difficulties in traditional high school settings. The program provides students with intensive support services that build confidence and foster their success in a collegiate learning environment.



The late Broy and Daris Moyer were former educators who spent a lifetime teaching and advocating lifelong learning. After their retirement, the couple lived at Clemson Downs and continued to help others learn by volunteering as tutors at Clemson University and Riverside Middle School in Pendleton. They began to give to the scholarship program through the Foundation and later established their own restricted scholarship. The couple included Tri-County in their estate planning. Mr. Moyer passed away in 2005 and following Mrs. Moyer's death in January 2014, the College was the beneficiary of a \$49,000 annuity which has been used to establish an endowed scholarship in their honor.

The Tri-County Technical College Alumni Association held its 27th annual golf tournament April 25 at Brookstone Meadows in Anderson. Seventeen teams participated in the captain's choice tournament.

The tournament raised almost \$11,000. These funds will enable the Alumni Association to increase its scholarship endowment, award additional book/supply dollars for fall, and fund new initiatives of the Association, such as the graduate breakfast, a Connections that Count career forum for students, exam survival kits for students, lunch for graduates in industry, and the double-dollar challenge with 2014 grads.



A total of \$7,600 was generated by the Student Leadership Development Endowment to fund student activities. This money was distributed to various student organizations to assist in the funding of a trip to Washington, D.C. Students are pictured here at The Marine Corps War Memorial (also called the Iwo Jima Memorial) outside the walls of Arlington National Cemetery. Students received a private tour of the Pentagon from Lt. Colonel Carl Young, visited Ford's Theatre and the Peterson House, toured the monuments, visited Mount Vernon and various Smithsonian Museums, and witnessed the changing of the Guards at Arlington Cemetery. These activities are designed to enlighten the students on the nation's history, government, and the military.



Laneika Musalini, director of grants, middle, and Sandra Strickland, program coordinator for the College's Corporate and Community Education, were recognized as recipients of the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Innovator awards. The event was hosted by Duke Energy. George Acker, S.C. vice president for government and community relations for Duke Energy and a former member of our College Commission, left, presented the awards to organizations that received grants that focus on STEM and manufacturing.



The Early Childhood Development (ECD) program hosted a family literacy event with interactive learning and play stations at the Anderson Campus.

The “Once Upon a Time Book Ball” was designed for children ages 2 – 6 and their families. Admission was free, and guests dressed as their favorite book character. Prizes were awarded for best costumes. Parents received suggested reading lists in their information packets. The event was sponsored by Inspiring Futures, the ECD student organization, and was designed, created, and staffed by ECD students and Program Coordinator Meredith McClure.

The ECD program is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

During the academic year, the Humanities Department completed 116 hours of community service – far exceeding their goal of 50 hours. Organizations served include The Girl Scouts of America, Meals on Wheels, Town of Pendleton, City of Clemson, Anderson Interfaith Ministries, Concerned Citizens for Animals, Whitehall and Westside Elementary Schools, and the Elks Club, to name a few.

Local business, industry, and education leaders gathered at a Business and Education Forum to strategize and develop action plans to encourage high school students to choose careers in advanced manufacturing.

“The goal was to develop action plans to increase the pace and number of high school students who are pursuing technical degrees in preparation for careers in advanced manufacturing,” said Amanda Blanton, director of high school engagement and outreach. “We want our business and industry leaders to be a part of the solution for this problem,” she said.

“Through the work of the Partnership for Academic and Career Education (PACE) board and the Pendleton Regional Education Center (PREC), we’re seeking new ways to get our message across in an effort to resolve the skills-gap issue. We are confident that if more students knew about the jobs and their salaries, they would choose these educational pathways.”

Apprenticeships—for high school and college students—are another route to building a sustainable workforce,” said presenter Jeromy Arnett, production administration manager at United Tool and Mold, Inc., in Easley, pictured above talking with Dr. Lee D’Andrea, superintendent of Anderson School District Four. United Tool and Mold is the first company in the Upstate and second in the State to have a School to Registered Apprenticeship. “It’s what we’re doing today that will meet the demands of tomorrow,” he told the crowd.

This event was made possible through the Dream It. Do It. SC initiative of Apprenticeship Carolina. It was hosted by The Clemson Center for Workforce Development, PACE, PREC, and Tri-County.



With a new name and a refocused purpose, the College’s annual road race drew around 200 participants, raising funds to support scholarships and services for student veterans.

Renamed the Tri-County Patriot Run, the College’s 5K Race and One-Mile Run/Walk was held at the Anderson Campus on Armed Forces Day, May 17.



The only reproduction in the United States of a one-room Rosenwald School built in the early twentieth century for the education of African Americans is now located at the College's Anderson Campus.

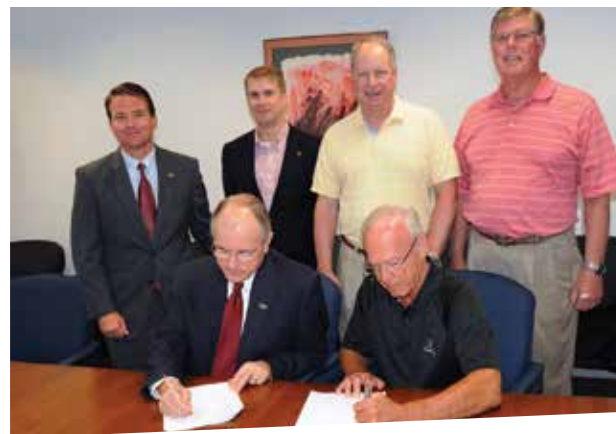
Representatives from the College and the Anderson County Museum, along with key community partners, gathered February 28 to celebrate and dedicate a replica of a one-room full-scale, 900-square-foot reproduction Rosenwald School constructed over the last several years by students in the College's Building Construction program.

Here, Westside Community Center Director Dr. Bea Thompson, who attended Mt. Pleasant Rosenwald School, gathered with around 40 alumni of the schools on the front porch as she ceremonially rang the school's bell.

The Anderson County Museum and Tri-County entered into a partnership three years ago to develop an historical mall at the Anderson Campus. The Rosenwald School is the first project, said Anderson Campus Director Tim Bowen, who acknowledged the Westside Community Center and the Anderson County Human Relations Council, "who have helped tremendously with research and work. We're very proud of our Rosenwald School project that celebrates the history, culture, and education of the Anderson area," he said. "Nothing happens without great people catching hold of a vision and doing good things. This is truly a community effort."



The College's Ninth Annual Bluegrass under the Stars concert drew its largest crowd ever with more than 2,000 filling the amphitheater and surrounding areas. The free concert and fireworks event for the family is held annually in conjunction with the town of Pendleton's annual Spring Jubilee celebration. Bluegrass traditionalists Junior Sisk & Ramblers Choice headlined the show.



Representatives from the College and the Tri-County Entrepreneurial Development Corporation (TCEDC) formally entered into a partnership that supports small business development, as well as economic growth in the tri-county area.

TCEDC Chief Executive Officer Dave Eldridge, seated right, and Dr. Booth, seated left, signed an agreement that enhances the organizations' partnership and dedication to helping small businesses develop and expand to create new jobs.

Originally established as the Mountain Lakes Business Development Corporation, TCEDC, a Walhalla-based organization, began several years ago as a result of efforts by local business and community leaders who saw a need for a non-profit organization devoted to helping small businesses with start up and guidance on the pathway to success.

A number of job/career fairs and training expos were held on campus throughout the year. Participants were given the opportunity to meet and interview with area employers and to find out about short-term training options in the fields of health care, business, heavy equipment operator, industrial/manufacturing, and truck driving.

Thirty educators from Anderson-Oconee-Pickens school districts, along with educators from Tri-County and Clemson University, attended the annual Institute on Integrative Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Teaching and Learning conference at Tri-County.

The conference leaders/experts discussed how to promote STEM education at teachers' individual schools.

"The STEM conference is a chance to unite teachers from K – 12, Clemson, and Tri-County to collaborate and communicate at all levels of STEM education," said Rick Murphy, Pendleton Regional Education Center coordinator. An ongoing goal is to develop ways to integrate technological literacy into the K-16 curricula in ways that will encourage more local students to choose STEM careers.

The Institute is funded by an AdvanceSC grant.



Veterinary Technology students joined rescue organizations and volunteers by giving much needed dental care to 10 of the 153 sick and emaciated dogs who were seized and rescued by law enforcement officials August 2013 from a puppy mill in the area.

“The 10 dogs we treated desperately needed dental care,” said (now retired) Veterinary Technology Department Head Dr. Peggy Champion. “They were at risk of losing teeth and had periodontal disease. It would be difficult for the persons adopting the dogs to afford this care so when Dr. Powell, director of Anderson County’s Pets are Worth Saving (PAWS), contacted me, we were more than happy to help. It benefits both the Shelter and the students,” said Peggy.

She gives a huge thanks to the Foundation office and the faculty and staff who continue to support the program through generous contributions. “Faculty and staff donations help defray the cost of these procedures. It’s the reason we can do this and afford to help the Shelter.”



Casey James, of Walhalla, was among the faculty, staff, and students who participated in the College’s Future Laboratory Professionals/AnMed Health-sponsored blood drive. Casey, a Criminal Justice major, is pictured with Kelly Wilbanks, a medical laboratory technician (MLT) and 1991 graduate of the College’s MLT program.



The Bridge to Clemson program, in its ninth year, held orientations over the summer for the more than 700 students who joined Tri-County this fall. This is the Bridge program’s largest class to date.

Bridge to Clemson, a first of its kind in South Carolina, is an invitation-only program that blends the traditional academic experience at Tri-County with the social and cultural experiences of being a Clemson University student. The program offers select Tri-County students a university experience and seamless transition to Clemson for the sophomore year. Bridge students must earn 30 transfer credits at Tri-County during their two semesters and transfer to Clemson with a 2.5 or higher GPA.



The Minority Student Association (MSA) held a Shoe Drive to benefit the Shoeman Water project. Students, faculty, and staff donated 120 pairs of new and gently-used shoes that will be resold and money used to build water wells in Haiti. Pictured here are MSA President Jimmy Gore, of Pendleton, a Mechatronics major, and Cindy Trimmier-Lee, Educational Talent Search counselor and MSA club advisor.



The College held a ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony at its Anderson Campus for a QuickJobs Development Center dedicated to preparing an advanced workforce to meet the needs of area manufacturers.

Dr. Booth joined county, community and state leaders to cut the ribbon for the 5,847-square-foot building that houses classrooms and a large space for labs, in addition to office space for SC Works.

During the ceremony, officials praised the collaborative efforts of Anderson County, the College, SC Department of Commerce, and SC Works of Anderson in bringing the Center to fruition.

The facility was partially funded by a \$500,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission through the SC Department of Commerce. It is operated by the College, and instructors from the Corporate and Community Education Division teach QuickJobs training courses. In addition, the Center offers customized training for area businesses and industries.



Jeremy Davies isn't the type to sit still and let a good opportunity pass him by.

He looks forward to a challenge and being productive. For two years he maintained a hectic schedule, attending Automotive Technology classes and labs during the day and then moving on to a job at BMW where he put in an additional 20 hours per week as one of the company's technical scholars. He maintained a near-perfect 3.95 grade point average and served as vice president of Alpha Zeta Beta, Tri-County's chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa national honor society.

He holds another distinction that most of today's college graduates can't claim—he isn't saddled with student loans. He graduated debt free, thanks to a Tri-County scholarship, as well as a prestigious Marine Corps Foundation Scholarship.

He says the Sue Lawrence Gignilliat and Thomas McCutchen Gignilliat Scholarship he received through the College's Foundation his first year opened the door to his future. This scholarship, coupled with Lottery Tuition Assistance, the BMW Scholars tuition allotment and paid internship, and the LIFE scholarship, paid for his degree. His second year of school was paid for by the Marine Corps Foundation Scholarship fund. He and three other individuals were recipients of the General William L. (Spider) Nyland Honorary Scholarship, named for the former Scholarship Foundation Chairman. Davies is the son of the late veteran LCpl Peter L. Davies, USMC, who served with the First Marine Division.

"This year has been challenging but fulfilling," said Jeremy, who was offered a full-time job at BMW after graduation but chose to further his education and is pursuing an Automotive Engineering Technology degree at Ferris State University in Michigan.

"I would have jumped at the job at BMW, but from day one, I said I want to get my bachelor's degree. I'd love to go back to BMW after graduating from Ferris," said Jeremy.

Licensed homebuilder Steve Sutton spent the better part of 2012 looking for a job. The housing market crash of 2007 initially didn't affect the successful owner of Action Construction Company, Inc., but two years later he was forced to close his business. He worked for two years for an ATM manufacturing company out of Texas, installing and servicing ATM machines all over the East Coast. He was on the road constantly, away from his family in Anderson, so he began applying for local jobs—any job.

Sending out 30 – 40 résumés brought no responses. "I never got called for an interview. The one thing missing from my résumé was education," said Sutton.

At 45 he became a first-time college student at Tri-County Technical College. Leaving a lifelong career for the classroom was challenging, but he applied the same tenacity to college as he did as a homebuilder. He began setting goals. His first was to be the best student he could be.

His decisive determination earned him a 4.0 grade point average, as well as a job before he graduated with a degree in Mechatronics May 8. Unlike two years ago, this time with degree in hand, he received multiple job offers prior to graduation. He accepted the position as the first robotics service technician hired by Epoch Robotics, a division of JR Automation in Pickens. He started his new career debt free. "Lottery tuition assistance and a Hayden Abney Fulp Memorial scholarship from Tri-County's Foundation paid for my education. How many can say they earned a college degree for free?" he asked.





A large animal internship at the University of Tennessee will be an excellent training ground for Bonnie Johnson's long-term career goal of working as a credentialed veterinary technician for the U.S. Equestrian Olympic Team.

Just one month after receiving her Veterinary Technology degree, Johnson left for a one-year rotating internship for graduate veterinary technicians through the University of Tennessee's (UT) Large Animal Veterinary Medical Center. This post-graduate large animal studies internship is designed to offer the technician the opportunity to increase knowledge and gain practical experience in an educational environment. Only graduates of AVMA-accredited Veterinary Technology programs are considered.

Bonnie is one of two Veterinary Technology students chosen nationwide to participate in UT's paid internship program at UT. The University's Veterinary Technician Internship Program is the only one of its kind in the country.

Bonnie, above, left, received the 2014 Leadership Award from the South Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians. She is pictured with Christee Williams, (now retired) instructor and coordinator of instructional activity.

Welding students took home three first-place and two second-place awards at the 32nd Annual Welding Skills competition hosted by Florence Darlington Technical College April 24. Accompanying the students were seven faculty from the Welding department.



The Benevolence in October project, sponsored by the Student Life and Counseling Services office, consisted of various drives/fundraisers to assist local agencies. They held a food drive for Clemson Community Care and Anderson Interfaith Ministries, an infant drive to benefit Safe Harbor, and a winter wear drive for the Salvation Army. They held a general needs drive for the Anderson Free Clinic, a Shoeboxes for Soldiers drive, and a crisis needs drive for Foothills Alliance. The participating clubs and classes included SGA, Student Ambassadors, Student Democrats, Psychology 120 class, College Skills 105 class, Inspiring Futures, Alpha Zeta Beta, and the Minority Student Association. The groups collected a total of 1,338 items.

Faculty, staff, and students at the Pendleton, Anderson, and Easley Campuses sponsored Angel Trees to benefit Clemson, Pendleton, and Seneca Head Start programs. The Easley and Anderson Campuses collected gifts for the Easley and Anderson veteran homes.



Prior to delivering the keynote address at the spring commencement, Michelin North America Chairman/President Pete Selleck met with the College's Michelin Technical Scholars to talk about their experience and his company's commitment to hiring as many local maintenance technicians as possible.

Mr. Selleck said the Michelin Technical Scholars program is an important part of being able to secure local, career-ready maintenance workers. "It is essentially a full ride for those selected, and just as importantly, it provides the students hands-on experience as paid interns at one of the local production facilities. These plant internships are a key part of the educational process, and the general feedback is that this experience helps students better grasp the importance of the classroom training after they see and work on the real equipment," he said.

"For Michelin, the scholars program is good business. It is an investment, because ideally Michelin Tech Scholar graduates are gleaned for full-time jobs as maintenance technicians—a profession in high demand today."



A Criminal Justice sophomore placed first in the Persuasive Speaking Category at the 2014 South Carolina Speech and Theater Association's Annual College Festival Competition.

Samantha Crowl, of Central, left, took the highest honors, placing first in the Persuasive Speaking category out of the ten S.C. colleges participating in the event held at Newberry College.

The Student Government Association (SGA) won second place in the 2014 Student Community Involvement Project competition sponsored by the South Carolina Technical Education Association (SCTEA). Their project was titled "Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse Awareness."



Summit Media Group selected Tri-County Technical College as the recipient of the 2014 David A. Harvey Memorial Scholarship. Representatives from the College accepted the \$4,500 check at the May 20 – 21 Automation Conference in Chicago, Illinois. Cheryl Garrison, job placement coordinator in Career Services, middle, accepted the scholarship from Joe Angel, president/publisher, Summit Media Group, Inc. (left), and Jim Chrzan, vice president/publisher, Automation World (right).

The scholarship money will help students fund summer classes and books.

Cheryl joined Industrial Electronics Technology faculty member Shan Smith, Schneider Electric Engineering Manager Ted Stokes, and Doug Wilson, senior associate development specialist at Bosch, as keynote presenters at the Conference. The team's topic was "Bridging the Skills Gap: Enhancing the Talent Pipeline through Local Technical College Collaboration." They shared best practices for creating a pipeline of highly skilled employees through collaboration with local industry.

Most of the 200 attendees at the recent international Automation Conference 2014 are facing the same day-to-day challenge – finding and hiring individuals with 21st century workplace skills. They were eager to hear how Tri-County Technical College's collaboration with industry leaders on curriculum changes and developing work-based learning opportunities, like scholars programs, co-ops, internships and apprenticeships, has been the key to producing work-ready graduates.

Several faculty members joined together to teach a session at the League for Innovations Conference. Todd Crisp-Simons (English), Alex Eaton (History), Dr. Chad Gregory (Humanities), and Jonathan Warnock (Comprehensive Studies) co-presented a session titled "Learning Beyond Campus: Developing, Rejuvenating, and Maintaining Experiential Learning Opportunities."

The presentation focused on how the Learning Beyond Campus experience develops unique academic partnerships with students by adapting educational offerings and approaches and facilitates new instructional atmospheres that increase diversity by challenging students academically, socially, and culturally.

Public Services Department Head Tom Lawrence delivered "Global Response to the International Criminal Court (ICC): Public Leadership Perspectives" at the International Leadership Association's (ILA) 16th Annual Global Conference. This five-part presentation was given by a panel of Ph.D. students from the United States, Canada, and Uganda. Tom's segment discussed the United States' position on the ICC and provided a global leadership model to navigate complex intra-political and foreign policy issues attendant with the court.



Grants Director Laneika Musalini co-presented a workshop at the 2014 NCURA Regional Conference. NCURA is a research/grants administrators professional council. The title of her team's presentation was "Designing Successful Training Programs Using Instructional Design Principles."



Library Director Marla Roberson presented at the national Florida Emerging Technology Conference. The session topic was "Looking to the Future for Library Connects: Engaging Students at the Research Point." This presentation focused on the tools that are already familiar to most participants as individual users and showed how the library uses the same tools to engage students in research.



Two staff members were selected as the College's representatives to participate in the year-long SC Technical College Leadership Academy.

Gayle Arries, director of marketing, and Stephanie Winkler, coordinator of disabilities services, spent the last academic year working on projects that focused on making the transition to college easier for groups with individual needs.

Gayle researched and developed "4 C-Able Futures," a two-week summer camp for displaced youth in foster care or privately placed in group homes. The camp will launch next summer.

Stephanie designed and created a veterans resource center on the Pendleton Campus that serves as a one-stop shop for enrollment processes, resources, and a place to hang out and talk with fellow veterans. Tri-County celebrated the opening of Patriots' Place, November 11, 2013, in the Student Center, Suite 155.

With each Academy, six projects are selected to present at the South Carolina Technical Education Association conference held annually in February. Stephanie and Gayle's projects were selected – and were voted the top two projects of the year by the 2014 Leadership class.

Gregg Stapleton, vice president for Business Affairs, and Galen DeHay, interim provost and assistant vice president for instruction and institutional effectiveness, joined Dr. Booth in conducting a presentation titled "A Blueprint for Success: Reimagining How the Community College Delivers Value" at the annual conference of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC).



General Engineering Technology (GET) Program Coordinator Dorian McIntire and Engineering Technology Department Head Mandy Orzechowski conducted a workshop entitled "STEAMing Ahead with the Arduino for STEM and Art" at the annual Hi-Tec conference.

The workshop centered around using an inexpensive yet powerful controller known as an Arduino, an Italian name meaning "to teach programming, control and interfacing concepts to middle school, high school, and college students in a fun and engaging manner."

Dr. Chris McFarlin, program director/faculty member for Criminal Justice and Paralegal Studies, is in his second year of serving as a regular judge for the Carol N. Ney National Mock Trial Tournament at Furman University. It is an annual event held in March.



Registrar Scott Harvey was selected for one of only two Presidential Outstanding Presenter Awards for his presentation at the Southern Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (SACRAO) 2014 annual meeting. His presentation, "Using Excel Pivot Tables to Quickly and Easily Analyze Student Data," was highly rated by the committee chairs and attendees alike.

Jenni Creamer, dean of the Transition to College unit, was a session presenter at the 14th Annual International Conference of the Community College Baccalaureate Association. Titled "Partnering for Success: Intentional Transfer Pathways," her session focused on the elements and design of the Bridge to Clemson partnership between Tri-County and Clemson University.



Several members of the Comprehensive Studies Department attended the 31st Annual South Carolina Association for Developmental Education Conference (SCADE). SCADE is a chapter of the National Association for Developmental Education.

Department Head Jennifer Hulehan presented a session called "Creating a More Successful Maiden Voyage: Applying Best Practices in First-Year Student Success in the Developmental Classroom." Jennifer, who has served as Secretary on the SCADE Board for the last year, was chosen to serve as President-Elect in 2014 and will head the organization as President in 2015. Comprehensive Studies instructor Tonia Faulling was elected to replace Jennifer as Secretary on the Board.

Pictured (from left) are Jonathan Warnock (English), Gwen Owens (Reading), Chris Meyer (English), Jennifer Hulehan (Department Head), Tracy Kilgore (English), Tonia Faulling (Math), Jimmy Walker (Math), and Andrea Barnett (Math).



Paul Phelps, program coordinator for Welding, was singled out among 10 State technical college nominees to receive the esteemed A. Wade Martin Innovator of the Year award at the 2014 South Carolina Technical Education Association conference February 21. In the eight years that Paul has served as Program Coordinator, the Welding program's enrollment steadily has increased from 60 to 120 students. In addition to teaching and advising students, he assists local companies with pre-hire assessment, fabrication training, weld testing, quality improvement, and writing procedures.

"Paul Phelps was instrumental in McLaughlin Body Company, Inc., choosing Anderson as the location for our new facility," said Randy Frederick, general manager of the Anderson company. "He is a gifted instructor, a trusted ally in the hunt for dedicated employees, an excellent resource for information regarding welding and equipment, and a partner with our company."

Dr. Joe Campbell, continuous improvement manager for Watson Engineering, Inc., said Paul "mentors, leads, and guides by example through positive and innovative leadership. Paul is able to lead and teach our welders through his exclusive, one-of-a-kind, hands-on approach that enables students and employees to grasp both the textbook and regulatory requirements of the American Welding Society. He also stays on the leading edge of technology in the metal fabrication field and finds innovative solutions to meet our training needs. He has been and continues to be an integral part of the success and growth of Watson Engineering, Inc."

The 2013 – 2014 graduates of the Medical Laboratory Technology program who took the National Certification Exam earned a perfect pass rate.

Since 2008, graduates have earned their national credentials by scoring a 100 percent pass rate on the National Certification Exam administered by the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP).

The Early Childhood Development (ECD) program received a five-year continued reaccreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Tri-County offers a certificate and diploma in Early Childhood Development and an associate degree in Occupational Technology with an emphasis in Early Childhood Development.

The Licensed Practical Nursing program received a continued eight-year accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). This is the highest recommendation a program can receive from its accrediting body.

"Our faculty prepare our students for working as an LPN or a seamless progression for continuing their education in our associate degree Nursing program," said Dr. Lynn Lewis, dean of the College's Health Education Division. "Our physical and human resources are unmatched in LPN education," said Dr. Lewis.



For the second consecutive year, the College's Pre-Pharmacy Advisory Committee was named Advisory Committee of the Year at the College's annual fall convocation.

Advisory Committee Chair Bill Stevenson, director of Pharmacy Services at Oconee Medical Center, sixth from left, and committee member Jim Hammett, assistant director of Pharmacy Services at AnMed Health Medical Center, far right, accepted the trophy and plaque on behalf of the committee. Also present to receive the award are pictured from left, Debbie Thrasher, health education division office manager; biology instructor Dennis Lee; chemistry instructor Karen Linscott; Science Department Head Dr. Suzanne Ellenberger; and Dr. Lynn Lewis, dean of the Health Education Division.



English instructor Joan Kalley was honored May 8 with the highest award presented to the faculty. She was presented the Presidential Medallion for Instructional Excellence by Dr. Booth at the spring commencement.

The medallion is presented each year to the instructor who has contributed the most during the academic year to the profession of teaching, to the development of the College and to the students.

“Without a doubt, Joan exemplifies everything that the Presidential Medallion represents: excellence in instruction, involvement at the College, student focus and respect of peers,” Tri-County English Department Head Robin McFall said in her written nomination. “She truly cares about her students as individuals and wants to make a difference both in and out of the classroom.”



Mandy Hanks, an adjunct instructor in the Expanded Duty Dental Assisting program, received the College’s 2014 Adjunct Faculty Presidential Award. This award is given annually at the spring faculty/staff convocation to the adjunct faculty member who is recognized for excellence in teaching, who has consistently high student evaluations and who supports the philosophy and goals of the College. A licensed dental hygienist with a specialty in pediatric dentistry, Mandy has served as a classroom lecturer, as well as a Lab and Clinical Coordinator in the program since 2009. She recently was hired as a full-time faculty member.

“Mandy’s ability to connect with her students and her talent at teaching simple concepts, as well as more advanced topics, are truly superior. She has a deep passion for the success of each student and is intent on graduating well qualified and educated students for our workforce,” said Donna Palmer, department head for allied health and program coordinator.

The Corporate and Community Education Division’s Certified Nurse Aide program was recognized for students’ results on the NNAAP Examination for the South Carolina Nurse Aide Registry.

Janelle Hicks, director of Healthcare Programs, and five of our Nursing Assistant instructors were commended at the 11th Annual Workshop for Nurse Aide Training Coordinators and Instructors at the Yates Center in Columbia.

Programs with an 80+% pass rate on the State Nurse Aide exam were recognized. Tri-County Technical College received a Certificate of Recognition from the Nurse Aide Competency Evaluation Service (NNAAP) and the S.C. Department of Health and Human Services.



When Dr. Ronnie L. Booth became Tri-County Technical College’s third president on July 1, 2003, he pledged his commitment to developing and maintaining partnerships, designing a roadmap for the College’s future, and reaffirming the College’s commitment to leaving a legacy of serving students and their communities.

His vision, from the beginning, was for Tri-County to become a role model for community college education through dedication to high standards, a nurturing environment, community alliances, and innovative leadership.

At the Annual Report Luncheon November 5, on behalf of the College’s Commission, Ham Hudson, right, presented Dr. Booth with a resolution of appreciation for his leadership and significant accomplishments on the occasion of his tenth anniversary as president of Tri-County Technical College.



Dr. Brian Swords



Deborah Brock



Stephanie Winkler

Three faculty/staff members were honored as the College’s Educators of the Year and were recognized at the South Carolina Technical Education Association (SCTEA) conference in February.

Dr. Brian Swords, director of the Easley Campus and all College QuickJobs Development Centers, is the College’s outstanding administrator; Deborah Brock, instructor in Medical Laboratory Technology and Faculty Development Liaison, is the outstanding instructor; and Stephanie Winkler, coordinator of Disabilities Services, is the outstanding staff nominee.

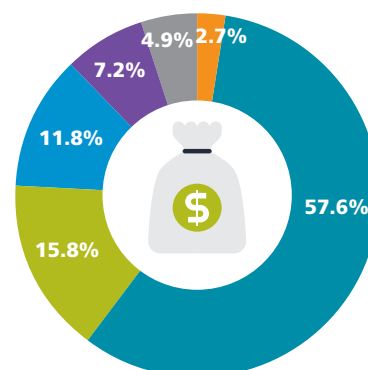
SCTEA is a professional association of technical education personnel and others interested in post-secondary technical education.

Brian also was honored with the College’s 2013 Presidential Medallion for Staff Excellence, and Deborah was named one of the finalists for the Governor’s Professor of the Year award.

TRI-COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE 2013-2014 BUDGET

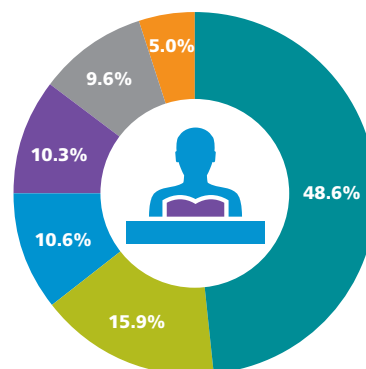
OPERATIONS REVENUE BY SOURCE

Credit Tuition and Fees	57.6%
State Appropriations	15.8%
Auxiliary Enterprises	11.8%
County Appropriations	7.2%
Corporate and Community Education Division	4.9%
Miscellaneous	2.7%



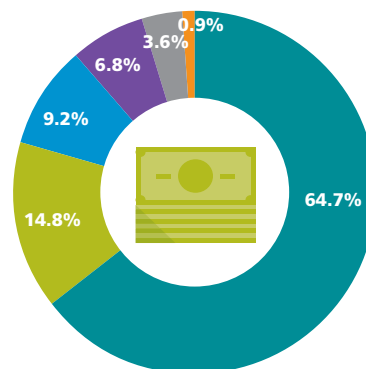
OPERATIONS EXPENDITURE BUDGET BY FUNCTION

Instruction	48.6%
Academic and Student Support	15.9%
Auxiliary Enterprises	10.6%
Operations and Plant Maintenance	10.3%
Administrative and General	9.6%
Corporate and Community Education Division	5.0%



OPERATIONS BUDGET BY CATEGORY

Salaries and Benefits	64.7%
Contractual Services	14.8%
Purchases for Resale (Bookstore)	9.2%
Fixed Charges	6.8%
Supplies and Materials	3.6%
Faculty/Staff Development & Travel	0.9%



Operations Budget	\$41,581,000
Restricted (Federal/State/Other)	\$34,053,000
Total Budget	\$75,634,000

Source: Business Office, July 2014

INCOME CREATED BY TCTC

\$32.6 MILLION

Effect of college operations

\$3 MILLION

Effect of student spending

\$163.4 MILLION

Effect of worker productivity

\$199.3 MILLION

Total effect

Source: Economic Impact Study Sector, EMSI, 2013

FOR EVERY \$1 SPENT...

\$3.90

Gained in lifetime income for STUDENTS

\$46.20

Gained in added state income
and social savings for SOCIETY

\$3.10

Gained in added taxes and public
sector savings for TAXPAYERS

Source: Economic Impact Study Sector, EMSI, 2013

STUDENTS RECEIVE \$23 MILLION IN FREE FINANCIAL AID

STUDENTS 2013-2014	PROGRAM	AMOUNT DISBURSED
395	Tuition Waivers	\$288,458.00
175	Private Scholarships	\$263,708.04
28	Tuition Grants to Children of Certain Veterans	\$78,143.00
16	SC Vocational Rehabilitation	\$17,000.83
441	Foundation Scholarships (Endowed and Restricted)	\$459,450.26
55	Employment & Training Services	\$260,652.17
3	SC Academic Endowment	\$2,685.00
5	Veterans Administration	\$11,170.93
174	Post 911 GI Bill	\$557,021.21
10	GoArmyed	\$18,828.00
12	TEACH Early Childhood Development	\$12,380.00
21	National Guard College Assistance Program	\$61,312.00
2	Upward Bound	\$1,860.00
3385	Pell Grant	\$11,281,412.00
1443	LIFE	\$6,559,322.00
2468	Lottery	\$3,061,840.00
639	SC Need-Based Grant	\$714,639.00
185	SEOG	\$128,265.00
94	CWS	\$165,184.00
9551	Total Amount of Aid	\$23,943,331.44

Note: Some students received more than one form of financial aid and are counted each time.
Source: Business Office, July 2014

FALL SEMESTER HEADCOUNT



3,155
ARTS AND
SCIENCES



1,055
BUSINESS
AND PUBLIC
SERVICES

723
CAREER
DEVELOPMENT



791
HEALTH
EDUCATION



829
ENGINEERING
AND INDUSTRIAL

6,553
GRAND TOTAL

Source: Institutional Research Office, July 2014

CREDIT STUDENT PROFILE

11.3%
BLACK



80.8%
WHITE



7.9%
OTHER



54%
FEMALE



46%
MALE

Enrollment Status

43.8%
PART-TIME



56.2%
FULL-TIME

11%
CAREER
DEVELOPMENT
(non-degree-seeking majors)



41%
TECHNICAL
PROGRAMS



48%
UNIVERSITY
TRANSFER



67.3%
WORKING



26
AVG. HRS.
WORKED/WEEK



23.7
AVERAGE
AGE



Source: Institutional Research Office, July 2014

\$2.1 MILLION IN GRANTS AWARDED TO TCTC

PROJECT TITLE	FUNDING SOURCE	TYPE	AMOUNT
Make It In America: Select SC	CUCWD/DOL	Federal	\$434,481
Upward Bound	Dept. of Education	Federal	\$356,046
Educational Talent Search	Dept. of Education	Federal	\$371,178
Welding Expansion Project	ARC	Federal	\$250,000
Perkins FY14	Perkins	Federal	\$249,881
Back to Work 50+ Expansion Grant	AARP	Private	\$165,200
Round 2 TAACCCT: SC ACCELERATE	DOL thru GTC	Federal	\$212,989
MentorLinks Program	AACC	Private	\$20,000
Laser & Fiber Optics Regional Center (Laser-TEC)	NSF through Indian River Community College	Federal	\$10,000
Advanced Skills Training for South Carolina Manufacturing Certified Programs	GRWC	Local	\$30,000
Southeastern Advanced Cybersecurity Education	NSF through Daytona State College	Federal	\$19,500
TOTAL			\$2,119,275

Source: Grants Office, July 2014

JOBS FROM NEW AND/OR EXPANDING INDUSTRIES

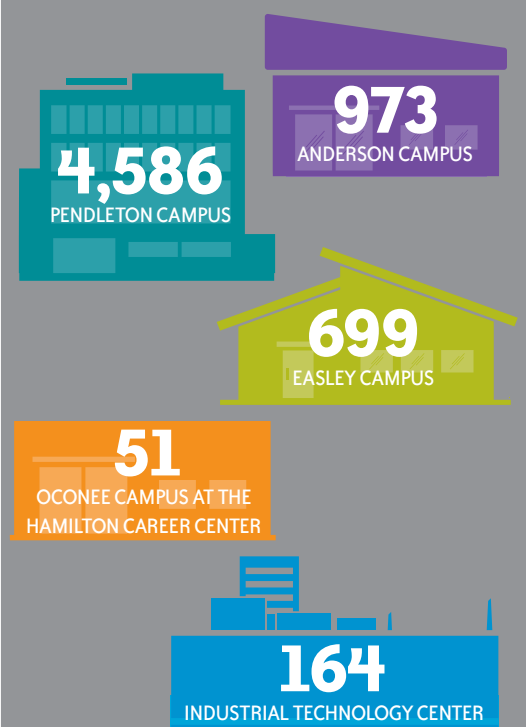
809 persons trained for new jobs for the 2013-2014 fiscal year



A.I.D. Company	63	Michelin - US10	64
Borg Warner	120	Robert Bosch Corporation - Anderson Plant	113
Chomarat North America, LLC	5	Sargent Metal Fabrications	36
Delta Power Equipment Corporation	9	Shaw Industries, Inc - Central	20
Electrolux	12	SMF, Inc.	9
First Quality Enterprises, Inc.	46	St. Jude Medical	35
Glen Raven Custom Fabrics, LLC	57	U.S. Engine Valve Company	60
Imperial Die Casting	58	Unitex USA	7
Kongsberg Automotive	5	VCI-SC, Inc.	10
McLaughlin Body Company	31		
Michelin - Starr US8	49	Total	809

Source: readySC™ Office, July 2014

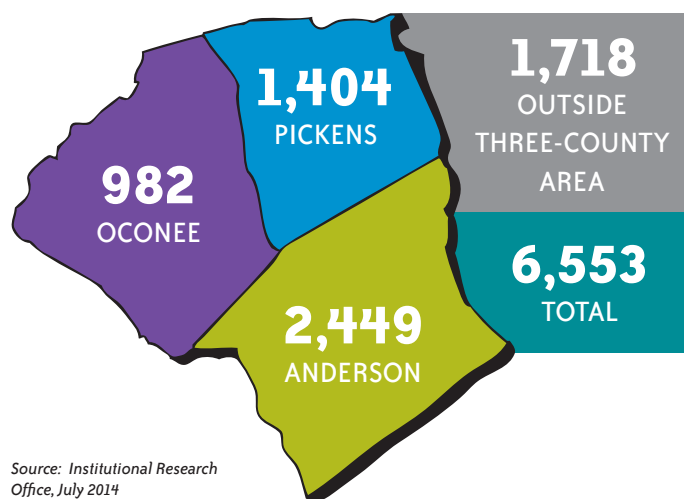
2013 FALL ENROLLMENT BY CAMPUS



Figures represent enrollment by campus for students who take at least one course at the given campus.

FALL 2013 CREDIT STUDENTS

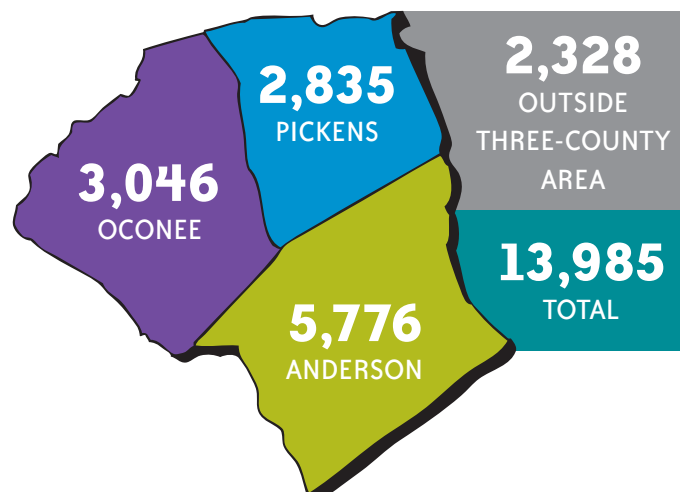
Enrollment by County



Source: Institutional Research Office, July 2014

2013-14 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION STUDENTS

Enrollment by County

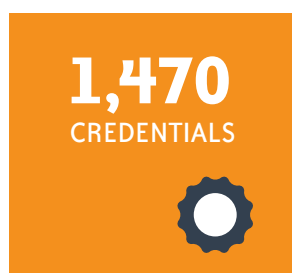


Note: The majority of the 2,328 served from outside the three-county area participated in state-wide training programs taught at TCTC, or were involved in an international conference that was delivered by TCTC during the year.

Source: Corporate and Community Education Division, July 2014



1,333
GRADUATES



1,470
CREDENTIALS

Source: Registrar's Office, July 2014

2013-2014

PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRS

ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS

Ms. Croslena Johnson, Coordinator of Student Life and Counseling Services, Tri-County Technical College

ARTS & SCIENCES

Dr. Walt Sinnamon, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Chair, Division of Science, and Professor of Biology, Southern Wesleyan University

BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY

Ms. Denise Bailey, Accounting Resource Manager, Elliott Davis, LLC

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Greg Benton, Director of Software Development, SAM Group

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Mr. John Skipper, Sheriff, Anderson County

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Shannon Vaughn, Director, Sunbelt Human Advancement Resources (SHARE) Greenville

ENGINEERING GRAPHICS TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Jeremy Bowyer, Lead Designer, Electrolux

EXPANDED DUTY DENTAL ASSISTING

Mr. Shane Simpson, CDA, Fort Hill Family Dentistry

GENERAL ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Ray Orzechowski, Engineer, BASF

INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Mike Jenkins, Senior Project Manager, S.C. Division, Power Services

HVAC

Vacant

INDUSTRIAL SUPERVISION TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Mike Webber, Senior Production Leader, Milliken & Company – Gerrish Mill

INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE

Dr. Jennifer Bushwack, DVM, Electric City Animal Clinic

MACHINE TOOL TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Gerald Maxie, Shop Foreman, Electrolux North America

MECHATRONICS

Mr. Danny Stovall, Program Coordinator, Mechatronics, Tri-County Technical College

MEDIA TECHNOLOGY AND ARTS

Mr. Michael Branch, Morning Show Host/Operations Manager, 92.1 WLHR Georgia Carolina Radiocasting

MEDICAL ASSISTING

Ms. Jan Hagewood Gibbs, CMA, RST, Office of Dr. Wajdi D'bouk, Anderson Family Care

MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY

Ms. Brenda Sanders, Laboratory Educational Coordinator, AnMed Health

NURSING

Ms. Janet Fuller, Nursing instructor, Nursing Department

PARALEGAL

Mr. Terry Allen, Paralegal, McGowan, Hood, and Felder, LLC

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

Ms. Jennifer Bagby, RPh, CVS Pharmacy

PRE-PHARMACY

Dr. Bill Stevenson, III, RPh., DPh., Director of Pharmacy Services, Oconee Medical Center

PRE-VETERINARY

Richard W Meiring, DMV, Assistant Dean for Admissions and Student Affairs, Clinical Professor, College of Veterinary Medicine, Mississippi State University

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

Ms. LaRue Fisher, CNOR, RN, AnMed Health

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

Dr. James Mullikin, DVM, Veterinary Clinic, P.A.

WELDING

Mr. Jesse Cannon, Instructor, Pickens County Career and Technology Center

WORLD CLASS TRAINING CENTER

Mr. Steve Witcher, Training Coordinator, Plastic Omnium

THE FOUNDATION'S NUMBERS

\$22,705,385

TOTAL ASSETS – JUNE 30, 2014



\$750,860

2013-2014 CONTRIBUTIONS

472

NUMBER OF
DONORS



166

NUMBER OF
CONTRIBUTORS
WHO HAD NEVER
GIVEN BEFORE

\$25,011

CONTRIBUTIONS
FROM FACULTY AND
STAFF



\$181

AVERAGE GIFT
FROM FACULTY
AND STAFF

\$264,305

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM
INDIVIDUALS



\$1,101

AVERAGE GIFT
FROM INDIVIDUALS

\$281,544

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM
COMPANIES



\$3,519

AVERAGE GIFT FROM
COMPANIES

\$180,000

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM
FOUNDATIONS



\$13,846

AVERAGE GIFT FROM
FOUNDATIONS

\$919,526

FUNDING PROVIDED TO STUDENTS
AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

FOUNDATION FINANCE COMMITTEE

James L. Williams, Chair, Salem

Gary T. Duncan, Seneca

Charlie C. Thornton, Vice Chair,
Anderson

Ben F. Hagood, III, Anderson

Dr. Ronnie L. Booth (ex officio),
Clemson

Gregg Stapleton (ex officio), Salem

David C. Wakefield, Anderson

Peggy G. Deane (ex officio), Anderson

WAYS TO GIVE

There are many ways in which you can support Tri-County Technical College's efforts to enhance its students' educational experience. Following are some examples:

- Cash
- Non-Cash, i.e., equipment donations, etc.
- Employers' Matching Gifts
- Securities
- Real Estate
- Life Insurance
- Retirement Plans
- Trusts and Annuities
- Bequests

For additional information, contact Courtney White, director of Development, at 864-646-1484.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS REMEMBERED

The next time you wish to acknowledge the death of a friend or loved one or are faced with buying a gift for someone, you may want to consider making an honor/memorial gift to the Tri-County Technical College Foundation. These gifts give lasting recognition to the individuals for whom the gifts are made while at the same time helping to ensure the future of the College.

More than 100 honor/memorial gifts totaling \$13,359 were received during 2013-14. Each donor received a receipt for his/her tax purposes acknowledging that the gift was tax-deductible, and the individual or family honored received a personal acknowledgment from the Foundation.

Gifts in Memory

Mrs. Vivian D. Hurt
Mrs. Edith S. Head
Mr. Charles F. Martell
Mr. Tom McPeak
Mrs. Brenda B. Nix
Mr. Roger D. Swords
Mr. Samuel F. Thrift
Mr. James L. Williams

Gifts in Honor

Dr. Ronnie L. Booth
Dr. Valerie B. Ramsey
Mr. Al Young



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

June 30, 2014

ASSETS

Cash	\$ 1,531,327
Net Pledge Receivables	\$ 249,952
Short-Term Investments	\$ 1,043,082
Interest Receivables	\$ 61,332

Total Current Assets \$ 2,885,693

Long-Term Investments

Large Cap Equities	\$ 11,630,581
Fixed Income	\$ 4,829,256
International Equity	\$ 1,192,799
Special Strategies	\$ 817,692
Commodities	\$ 444,577
Private Equities	\$ 904,787

Total Long-Term Investments \$ 19,819,692

Total Assets \$ 22,705,385

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

Accounts Payable	\$ 39,285
Investment Fees Payable	\$ 3,123

Total Liabilities \$ 42,408

Fund Balance \$ 15,719,465

Unrealized Gain/Loss on Investments \$ 6,943,512

Total Fund Balance \$ 22,662,977

Total Liabilities and Fund Balance \$ 22,705,385

BENEFACTORS' SOCIETY

The Benefactors' Society recognizes those who have planned for future gifts to the College through their wills, annuities, life insurance policies, or retirement plans. Benefactors' Society members realize the importance of a quality education and are interested in seeing Tri-County achieve its vision of becoming the role model for all community colleges.

If the College is in your estate plan and you would like to be recognized as a member of the Benefactors' Society, call Courtney White (864-646-1484). Following is a list of current members:

Members of the Benefactors' Society

Anonymous	Dr. Debra King
Mr. David A. Armstrong (deceased)	Ms. Mary K. Littlejohn (deceased)
Ms. Carol Burdette	Mrs. Susan W. McClure
Mrs. Corinne B. Cannon	Ms. Willie C. McDuffie (deceased)
Dr. Henry Cowart Drake (deceased)	Mr. and Mrs. Larry Miller
Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Elliott	Ms. Stephanie J. Montgomery
Mr. Alvin Fleishman (deceased)	Mrs. Broy S. Moyer (deceased)
Mrs. Jeanne Fowler	Mr. and Mrs. Cameron Murdoch (deceased)
Ms. Nancy Garrison (deceased)	Mrs. Rita Rao
Dr. John L. Gignilliat (deceased)	Mr. David W. Russ
Mr. Thomas Hayden	Dr. L. Marianne Taylor
Mrs. Ruby S. Hicks (deceased)	Mr. William L. Watkins (deceased)
Mr. Charles R. Johnson	
Dr. Charlotte R. Kay (deceased)	

MATCHING GIFTS

Many companies and corporations in the United States offer matching-gift programs, giving their employees an opportunity to increase the amount of their donations to charitable organizations. Twelve donors who gave to the Tri-County Technical College Foundation, Inc., during 2013-14 applied for matching gifts. The total amount matched by the following companies was \$9,653:

Bank of America	Duke Energy
BASF Catalysts	GE
Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative, Inc.	IBM
Chevron	Schneider Electric
ConocoPhillips	St. Jude Medical – CRM Division

The Tri-County Technical College Foundation Board and staff are grateful to you, our donors, for the support you have given us. This list recognizes donors who made gifts to the Tri-County Technical College Foundation during 2013-14, beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2014.

Every effort has been made to correctly list each donor; but if you find an omission or incorrect listing, please call the Foundation Office at either (864) 646-1809 or 1-866-269-5677 (within the 864 area code), Ext. 1809. You can also send an e-mail to dnelms@tctc.edu.

Benefactors' Club (\$100,000 and Over)

Robert Bosch LLC

Partners' Club (\$50,000 - \$99,999.99)

Abney Foundation
Duke Energy Foundation
Estate of Cameron and Margaret Murdoch

Ambassadors' Club (\$25,000 - \$49,999.99)

AARP Foundation
CUCWD/Duke Energy
Darby, Mrs. Judy M.
Estate of Broy S. Moyer
Nalley, Mr. and Mrs. George B.

Pacesetters' Club (\$10,000 - \$24,999.99)

Ash, Mr. and Mrs. Darren
Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Bosch Community Fund
Bowers Emergency Services
FIRST
General Machine of Anderson, Inc.
Itron Electricity Metering, Inc.
NHC HealthCare of Anderson
Nittan Valve Company, Ltd.
Oconee Federal Savings & Loan Association
Oconee Memorial Hospital
Pasui, Dr. Dan
Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Jim, Jr.
U.S. Engine Valve Company
W. C. English Foundation

Donors Who Made Pledges of \$10,000 - \$24,999.99

Rhodenbaugh Family

Honors Club (\$5,000 - \$9,999.99)

Anderson Independent Mail
Anne J. Gambrill Foundation
AT&T Foundation
BB&T
Blackmon, Mr. and Mrs. Alan
BorgWarner
Cannon, Mr. and Mrs. Michael T.
Commercial Bank
Cornell Dubilier Marketing, Inc.
Duncan, Mr. Gary T.
Hedrick, Ms. Nancy
HMR Veterans Services
Lollis Metals, Inc.
McGee Heating and Air, Inc.
Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Co., Inc.
Schneider Electric North America Foundation
Trehel Corporation

Merit Club (\$2,500 - \$4,999.99)

Bank of America Charitable Foundation
Booth, Dr. and Mrs. Ronnie L.
Crisp-Simons, Mr. Todd B.

Eisenberg, Mr. David S.
Grainger Foundation
Heritage Classic Foundation
Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Butch
Marshall, Dr. Timothy R.
Michelin North America, Inc.
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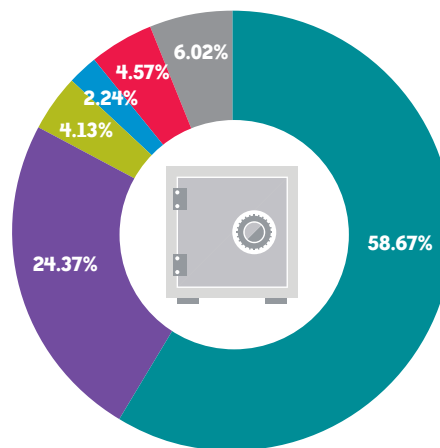
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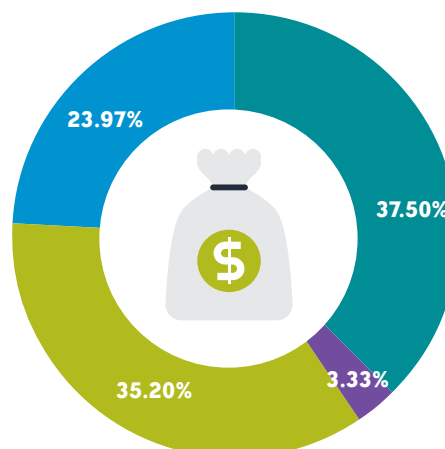
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Large Cap Equities	58.67%
Fixed Income	24.37%
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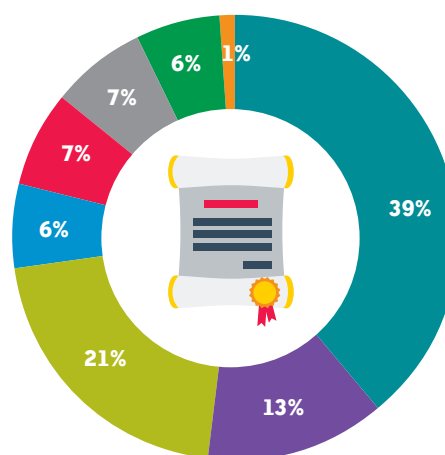
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Companies	37.50%
Faculty/Staff	3.33%
Individuals	35.20%
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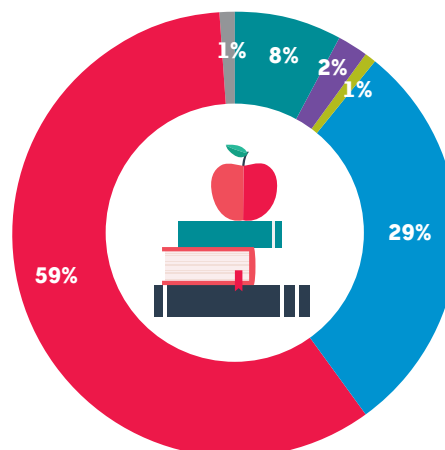
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Professional Development	13%
Educational Support	21%
Technology	6%
Management/General	7%
Fundraising	7%
Investment Fees	6%
Alumni Relations Operating/Fundraising	1%



DONOR GIFT DESIGNATIONS

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Professional Development	1%
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Priority Needs/Special Projects/Other Initiatives	59%
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Tri-County Technical College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the associate degree. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Tri-County Technical College.

Tri-County Technical College does not discriminate in admission or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, qualifying disability, veteran's status, age, or national origin.



19:1
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FACULTY RATIO



20
ASSOCIATE
DEGREE
PROGRAMS



10
DIPLOMAS



65
CERTIFICATE
PROGRAMS



4
CAMPUSES



#1

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SUCCESSFUL TRANSFERS

99%



OF EMPLOYERS RATE
TRAINING EFFECTIVE OR
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3:1



RETURN ON
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MISSION

Tri-County Technical College, a public community college, focuses on teaching, learning, and helping students reach their goals. The College supports economic development for Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties in South Carolina by preparing a highly-skilled workforce.

VISION

Passionate people transforming lives and building strong communities one student at a time.

VALUES

- **Integrity:** To be our ideal selves, doing right, and upholding and demonstrating high ethical standards at all times.
- **Respect:** An understanding that everyone is important and is valued. To be open to accepting and balancing the different views of yourself and others. To preserve dignity in ourselves and others and to interact in a manner that promotes trust, openness, and understanding.
- **Community Minded:** To be good citizens within the College community, upholding policies and procedures and taking responsibility for making the working and learning environment better for all. To go above and beyond the boundaries of our position descriptions, departments, or divisions and work for the overall good of the College.
- **Commitment to Excellence:** The desire or drive to make improvements each and every day in ourselves and our environment.

ROLE AND SCOPE

- An open-door institution of higher education, the College offers affordable, accessible, collaborative, and learner-centered instruction. Offerings include university transfer associate degree programs and applied technical associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates in more than 70 majors associated with business, health, public service, and engineering and industrial technologies. The College also offers developmental courses for students who need to improve their basic academic skills.
- The College promotes economic development in the region through customized education and training for local businesses and industries through credit and continuing education offerings and a variety of workforce training programs.
- The College has campuses located in Pendleton, Anderson, Easley, and Seneca, as well as learning centers in Honea Path and Sandy Springs. The College also offers online classes and a variety of academic and support services.



Mailing Address

Tri-County Technical College
P. O. Box 587
Pendleton, SC 29670

Pendleton Campus

7900 SC Highway 76
Pendleton, South Carolina
864-646-TCTC (8282)

Anderson Campus

511 Michelin Boulevard
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864-260-6700

Easley Campus

1774 Powdersville Road
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Oconee Campus

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